red eye

Wednesday
SEPTEMBER 3, 2008

redeyechicago.com

An edition of the Chicago Tribune

★ FREE ★

Faster commute on the CTA? 8

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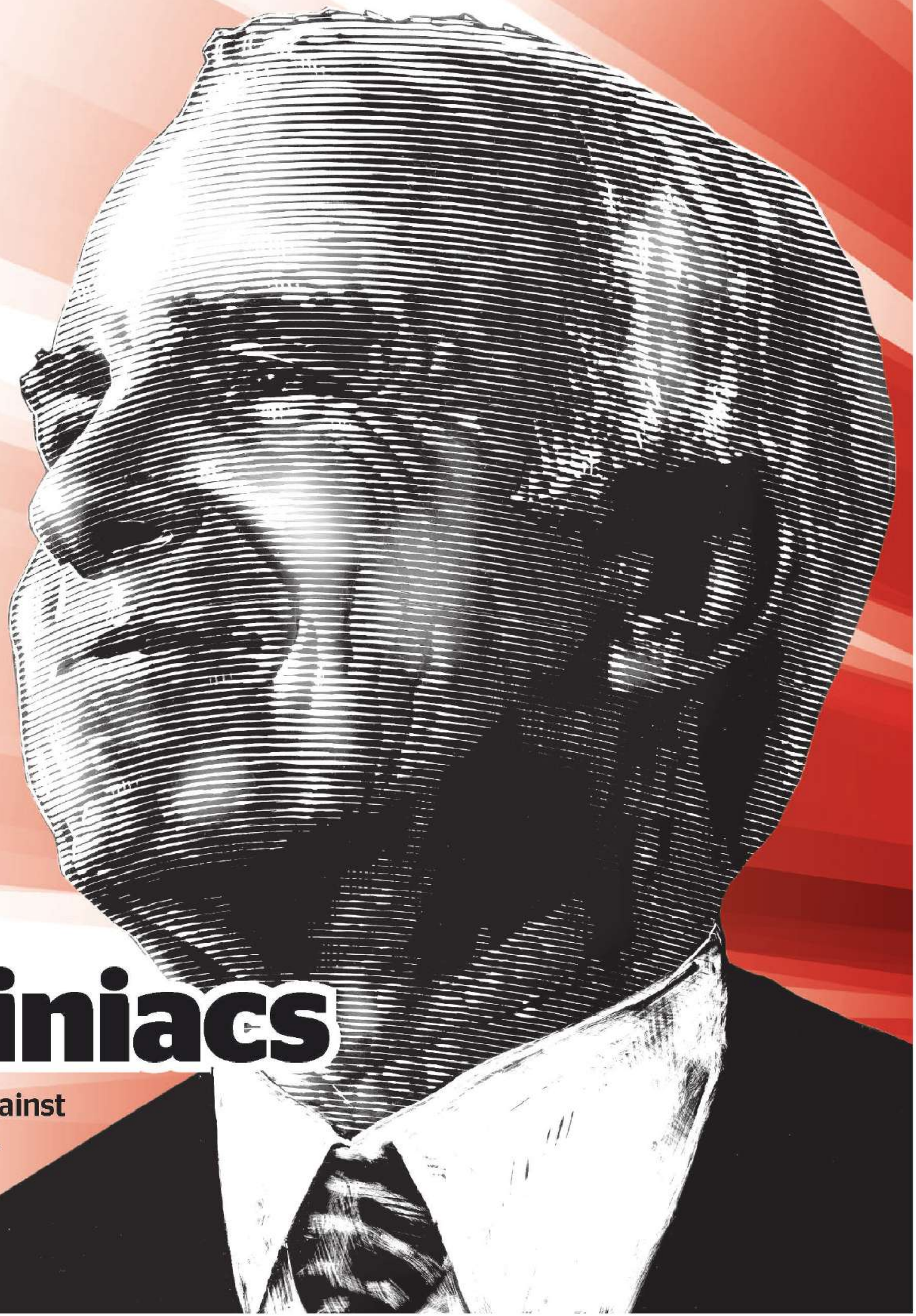

JESSICA RANDKLEV ILLUSTRATION FOR REDEYE

Meet the McCainiacs

Young Chicagoans go against grain, back John McCain. Plus, questions surround his VP choice 6-7

2do

» Home Run Inn Pizza

To film
Submit a 2-minute horror film featuring Home Run Inn Pizza at **homeruninn.com/halloween** before Oct. 10, and you could win $2,500 and a pizza party for 20.

To enter
Submit a love story about a couple who is getting or just got engaged at **spaweek.org** and they could win a $25,000, 2.5-carat diamond engagement ring.

To bail
Worried about getting stuck on a blind date? Request a call at **getmooh.com** (it stands for get me out of here) and they'll ring you for free with a recorded message to give you an excuse to leave.

To review
Whether you're looking for a job or want to know how much you're making compared to co-workers, visit **glassdoor.com** to view ratings, reviews and salaries from companies nationwide.

» Send tips to **redeye2do@hotmail.com**

txtable

aye, aye caption

Text us a funny caption for the photo and we'll print the best in Thursday's RedEye. To give it a shot, text the word **"caption"** followed by your brief caption and your name to **47383**. Good luck!

LAST FRIDAY'S WINNER:
Hey boys, I bet your grandma can't do this! **—BRYAN**

75 65

TODAY'S FORECAST
Bye-bye sunshine: mostly cloudy with chance of showers.

THU. 71 / 62 — More of the same

FRI. 75 / 62 — Cloudy, blah. Rain?

SAT. 78 / 63 — Deja vu

SUN. 78 / 59 — At least it's still warm

On the Web

GO, WHITESNAKE, GO
RedEye's Cubs blogger Matt Lynch asked his readers to send ideas for a pop song that would capture the Cubs' season. The winner: "Here I Go Again" by Whitesnake. Don't buy it? Read Matt's breakdown of all the lyrics at **redeyechicago.com/oddballs** and you'll agree what it's like to walk along the lonely street of dreams.

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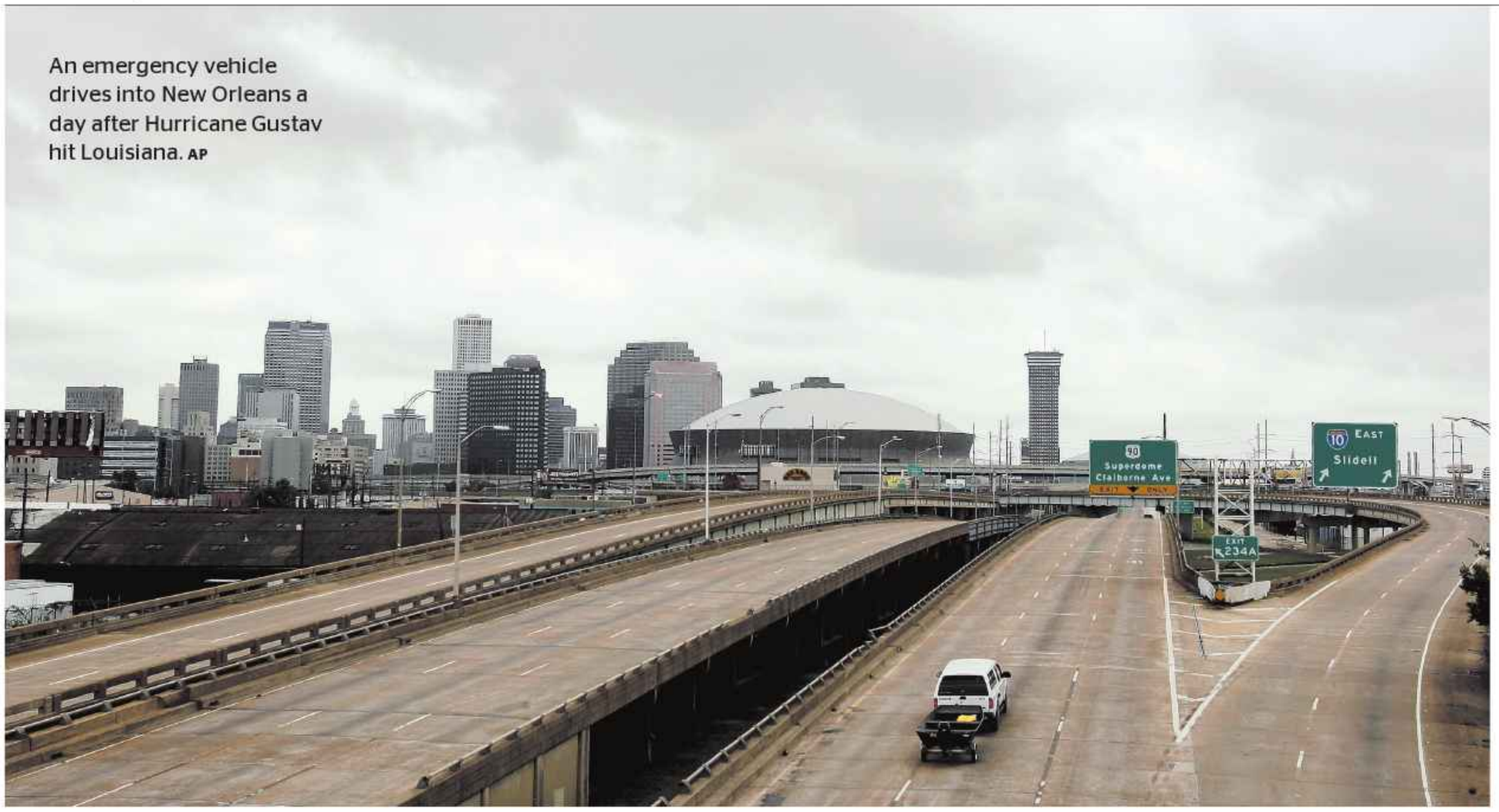

An emergency vehicle drives into New Orleans a day after Hurricane Gustav hit Louisiana. AP

Mayor: Stay away

Nagin urges evacuees to wait a few days before returning to New Orleans

Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS Anxious evacuees across the country clamored to come home Tuesday after their city was largely spared by Hurricane Gustav, but Mayor Ray Nagin warned they may have to wait in shelters and motels a few days longer.

The city's improved levee system helped avert a disaster like Hurricane Katrina, which flooded most of the city, and officials got an assist from a disorganized and weakened Gustav, which came ashore about 72 miles southwest of the city Monday morning. Eight deaths were attributed to the storm in the U.S. after it killed at least 94 people across the Caribbean.

But New Orleans still was a city that took a glancing blow from a hurricane: A mandatory evacuation order and curfew remained in effect. Electric crews started work on restoring power to the nearly 80,000 homes and businesses in New Orleans—and more than 1 million in the region—that remained without power after the storm damaged transmission lines that snapped like rubber bands in the wind.

"We have a massive caravan of crews coming to the city and they should be here this morning to fix the rest of the power outages," Nagin said on CBS "Early Show."

The city's sewer system was damaged, and hospitals were working with skeleton crews on backup power. Drinking water continued to flow in the city.

Nagin cautioned that Tuesday would be too early for residents to return to New Orleans, but their homecoming was "only days away, not weeks."

Crews would comb the city Tuesday to fully review the damage, Nagin said, with the goal of having residents return beginning late Wednesday or Thursday.

But in shelters, people far away from their homes were growing restless in convention centers and gymnasiums. Fights broke out at an overcrowded shelter in Shreveport. Doctors worried about medications running out and seven people were hospitalized, all in stable condition.

"People are desperate. They don't know if they are going to have a place to go home to," said Emma McClure, 37, who was at the shelter with her three children, three sisters and some 20 nephews. "They had three years to plan this and now I wish I had stayed in the city like I did during Katrina."

HOSPITAL EVACUATIONS

Some 800 patients in a dozen Louisiana hospitals may have to be evacuated in the next three days because the facilities do not have air conditioning.

Trey Williams, a spokesman for the Louisiana governor's office, said from Baton Rouge on Tuesday that seven nursing homes may also have to evacuate for the same reason.

While the facilities have back-up generators, the emergency power does not run air conditioning systems, he said. AP

Storms brewing

Colorado State University climatologist William Gray predicts the storm period this month will be nearly twice as busy as an average September. AP

5
Number of storms, including hurricanes, forecasted in the Atlantic this month. That prediction counts Tropical Storm Ike, which formed Monday, and Josephine, which formed Tuesday.

4
Number of hurricanes forecasted, including Hanna, which reached hurricane strength on Monday before weakening back to a tropical storm. Two are expected to be major.

9
Number of Atlantic hurricanes forecasted for the season in an Aug. 5 prediction by Colorado State researchers.

Google takes on Microsoft with new Web browser

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO Google is releasing its own Web browser in a long-anticipated move aimed at countering the dominance of Microsoft's Internet Explorer and ensuring easy access to its market-leading search engine.

Google company took the unusual step of announcing its latest product on the Labor Day holiday after it prematurely sent out a comic book drawn up to herald the new browser's arrival.

The free browser, called "Chrome," is supposed to be available for downloading Tuesday in more than 100 countries for computers running on Microsoft's Windows operating system. Google said it's still working on versions compatible with Apple's Mac computer and the Linux operating system.

Google's browser is expected to hit the market a week after Microsoft's unveiling of a test version of its latest browser update, Internet Explorer 8. The tweaks include more tools for Web surfers to cloak their online preferences, creating a shield that could make it more difficult for Google and other marketing networks to figure out which ads are most likely to appeal to which individuals.

Although Google is using a cartoonish approach to promote Chrome, the new browser underscores the gravity of Google's rivalry with Microsoft, whose Internet Explorer is used by about 75 percent of Web surfers.

Google's lead in the lucrative Internet search market is nearly as commanding, with its engine processing nearly two-thirds of the Web's queries.

For the past few years, Google has been trying to take advantage of its search engine's popularity to loosen Microsoft's grip on how most people interact with personal computers.

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hey, cta

Have something to say about public transit in Chicago? Send your ideas and opinions to goingpublic@tribune.com.

GET ONBOARD THE BLOG

Come share your CTA kudos, complaints and spy observations with "Going Public" columnist Kyra Kyles at **redeyechicago.com/ctablog**. She promises to save you a seat.

Readers take CTA to task

Wondering what's going down on the Brown Line? Fear not, "Going Public's" Kyra Kyles tackled a slew of rider questions about the Brown Line capacity expansion project in Tuesday's column. Riders wrote back with more CTA-related queries and eagle-eyed observations.

Stop screeching

[It is easy] to complain about the CTA, the condition of trains, how terrible [the] employees they have [are], the train shutting down for construction that never seems to show progress. Isn't the screeching noise on the Red Line between Clark and Division and Chicago [stops] a health violation considering the noise is so loud that patrons are forced to plug their ears?

JUSTIN KATRICHIS, 24, EDGEWATER

Overpowering flowers

Here's one for the "Y Files"—as in why would anyone approve this idea? At a few southbound bus shelters on Michigan Avenue, there are ginormous concrete flower "pots" (read tanks) that completely obstruct the view of approaching buses. Anyone seated or standing there has the choice of jumping up and checking for the bus every 15 seconds or trusting that some late-running bus driver nonchalantly chatting away on his/her ear piece will not use these barriers as an excuse to offer CTA red-eye (pun unintended) nonstop service past these obstructions, especially if no one requests to stop. Why not simply move the flower pots to the south end of the shelters? Granted, the flowers are aesthetically pleasing, but after a long day's work just show me the bus.

JOHN WHITEHEAD, 31, HYDE PARK

Back it up, bus riders

It doesn't matter which bus I take, the No. 1, 3, 4, 7 or 126 (thank God for the No. 129), but folks crowd around the front of the bus. Why must I get on and excuse myself to the less crowded, much cooler rear of the bus? People, when you get on, move on back. It makes the bus ride more comfortable, the driver can see better, and your fellow riders won't have to step over you to fit in. Can we all just ride along?

DARRELL PEACOCK, 38, SOUTH LOOP

Yo, mommas!

Is it me, or [do] moms with babies on the CTA have no clue at all? Almost every young mother I see on trains and especially buses would either let their screaming brats holler and cry, or bring on strollers the size of SUVs and keep them open. Instead of taking [her] child out of his or her stroller, folding it and storing it under the seat, [she] allows the child to stay in it, mostly blocking the aisles. Someone needs to tell these mommies: Learn some common sense and have common courtesy for your fellow bus riders.

KRYS SEASTRUNK, 23, ENGLEWOOD

FROM ONLINE

Response to a blog entry about CTA sib Metra losing its bar cars:

I couldn't even fathom a refreshment car on the CTA. People don't even know how to carry their coffee on the train without causing a stir. Imagine if those same people had a little liquor in their system ... major problem!!!!

» Posted to **redeyechicago.com/ctablog** by *EBONEE* on Aug. 27 at 3:19 p.m.

red eye

An edition of the Chicago Tribune *founded October 30, 2002*

redeyechicago.com

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GOP rallies faithful in Minnesota

ST. PAUL — Republicans assailed Barack Obama as the most liberal, least experienced White House nominee in history Tuesday night as President Bush led a convention chorus of praise for GOP candidate John McCain. Delegates rallied behind vice presidential running mate Sarah Palin in the face of fresh controversy.

"God only made one John McCain, and he is his own man," declared Sen. Joseph Lieberman, the 2000 Democratic vice presidential nominee, awarded a prime-time turn at the Republicans' convention podium.

The convention hall resounded with boos when Lieberman said the Democratic presidential candidate voted to cut off funding "for our troops on the ground" in Iraq last year.

And again when former Sen. Fred Thompson scoffed at the 47-year-old Illinois senator, who is seeking to become the first black president.

"Democrats present a history-making nominee for president. History making in that he is the most liberal, most inexperienced nominee ever to run for president," Thompson said as delegates roared their agreement.

Thompson and Lieberman both cast Palin as a political maverick in the McCain mold.

The Republican nominee-in-waiting campaigned in Pennsylvania and Ohio during the day, slowly making his way toward the convention city where the 72-year-old Arizona senator will deliver his formal acceptance speech on Thursday night.

Hundreds of miles to the west, in St. Paul, about two dozen men who were Vietnam prisoners with him a generation ago sparked chants of "USA, USA" when they were introduced to the delegates.

Bush, an unpopular president relegated to a minor role at the convention, reprised the national security themes that propelled him to a second term as he spoke—briefly, by satellite from the White House. "We need a president who understands the lessons of Sept. 11, 2001," he said.

"That to protect America, we must stay on offense, stop attacks before they happen and not wait to be hit again. The man we need is John McCain."

Thompson delivered a strong defense of Palin. He said the Alaska governor was "from a small town, with small town values, but that's not good enough for those folks who are attacking her and her family."

He said McCain's decision to place her on the ticket "has the other side and their friends in the media in a state of panic." AP

McCain's soldiers

Young Chicagoans try to persuade peers to vote for their candidate

By Leonor Vivanco
REDEYE

Shawn Healy is mad for McCain.

As the founder of the Illinois Young Professionals for McCain, Healy, 33, has traveled this summer around the city to street fests and the Air & Water show, trying to persuade young voters to go against the grain in a heavily Democratic city that's Barack Obama's backyard to support his "hero," John McCain, for president.

"The great thing about John McCain is even if you don't agree with him, and I don't agree with him on every issue, you know where he's coming from," said Healy, resident scholar at the McCormick Freedom Museum and membership director for Chicago Young Republicans. "What I trust about him is, even when I don't agree with him, he's doing what he thinks is right."

A self-proclaimed "political junkie," Healy, who is at the Republican convention in St. Paul this week, has missed out on watching baseball games this season to get the vote out for McCain, who is set to accept his party's nomination for president Thursday. After the convention, Healy plans to try to increase McCain's support in Chicago by visiting college campuses.

"I think Barack Obama and John McCain, to their credit, have gotten young people involved in the process and maybe that's, more than anything, the lasting legacy of this campaign and election," said Healy, who lives in the South Loop.

Both candidates are aggressively courting young voters, who went to the polls in record numbers for this year's primaries. Presidential candidates are engaging young voters through Facebook and MySpace pages, and college campus visits on the campaign trail.

However, more of the momentum of the youth voting bloc seems to be behind Obama, who leads McCain 58 percent to 34 percent among voters younger than 30, according to an August survey by the Pew Research Center.

Although the youth voting trend poses a challenge for McCain, who turned 72 last week, there's hope to bridge the gap.

"It's definitely not over and they definitely do have a chance to still win young voters," said Stephanie Young, a communications associate for Rock the Vote. "It's premature to say Obama has it totally in the can. Yes, that's what it looks like, but this is a presidential election, and politics and things can change at the drop of a hat."

Ways McCain could gain more young votes include investing more resources into that voting bloc, highlighting his support for AmeriCorps and playing up stories that show he has a connection to younger people, said Peter Levine, director of the nonpartisan Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement at Tufts University, which studies youth voting habits.

"Young people are more likely than others to change their mind during the course of the campaign," he said.

McCain has made strides in trying to reach young voters, said supporter Sean Bauer, 27. "He's trying to make an effort going on late night talk shows, trying to blend in and use hip jargon and going on 'Saturday Night Live,' " said Bauer, who lives in Wrigleyville.

Still, Bauer isn't surprised young voters migrate toward Obama.

"He's the younger of the two candidates. He's very handsome, very debonair. He's a sexy pick. He's almost a celebrity in his own right," he said.

But Bauer is bucking the trend.

"I like McCain because he's more of a centrist," Bauer said. "I tend to agree with some of his viewpoints because he's closer to the middle on some of them." LVIVANCO@TRIBUNE.COM

YOUNG GUN

McCain has tried to relate to young voters. You can be the judge based on these facts gleaned from news reports.

Why he's cool

- There were more than 257,600 supporters on his official Facebook page as of Monday.
- He has more than 73,000 friends on his official MySpace page as of Monday.
- He scored a cameo in the movie "Wedding Crashers."
- His attack ad features Britney Spears and Paris Hilton.
- He's made multiple appearances on "Late Night with Conan O'Brien," "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart," "The Colbert Report," "Saturday Night Live," "The Late Show with David Letterman" and "The Tonight Show with Jay Leno."
- His daughter Meghan blogs from the campaign trail and hangs with "Hills" star Heidi Montag.

Why he's not

- His top 10 favorite songs are more than 30 years old.
- His musical tastes include ABBA and Roy Orbison.
- His favorite movie is "Viva Zapata!" circa 1952.
- He admits to being computer illiterate and is learning to use the Internet.
- He has said he's "older than dirt" and has "more scars than Frankenstein."

Shawn Healy, founder of the Illinois Young Professionals for McCain, is poised to get the vote out for the GOP presidential hopeful. KATE DOUGHERTY FOR REDEYE

Palin had 'complete' review

From news services

John McCain said Tuesday he's satisfied that Sarah Palin's background was properly checked out before the Alaska governor joined the Republican ticket. He predicted that public excitement about her candidacy will increase after her address to the GOP convention on Wednesday.

Asked about whether Palin's background was thoroughly checked out before he selected her, McCain told reporters in Philadelphia: "The vetting process was completely thorough and I'm grateful for the results."

Wednesday in St. Paul
Gov. Sarah Palin is scheduled to address the convention Wednesday, when Sen. John McCain is also due to arrive.

Questions about the review of Palin came up after news surfaced that her unmarried 17-year-old daughter, Bristol, is pregnant, and that the Alaska governor has retained a private attorney to represent her in an investigation into the firing of the state public safety commissioner.

The lawyer who conducted the background review said Palin voluntarily told McCain's campaign about Bristol's' pregnancy and about her husband's 2-decade-old DUI arrest during questioning as part of the vice presidential search process.

Palin underwent a "full and complete" background examination before McCain chose her as his running mate, Arthur Culvahouse said. Asked whether everything that came up as a possible red flag during the review already has been made public, he said: "I think so. Yeah, I think so. Correct."

McCain's advisers said that they were confident the pregnancy story would fade soon. Still, it seemed certain to interfere with the careful effort by the McCain campaign to portray her as a socially conservative, corruption-fighting hockey mom with five children. This clearly stands as a challenge to the traditional image of a potential first family. It will test again what voters deem private, at a time when the Web has pulled down so many curtains and what in these times is considered a normal family life.

In the short term, this disclosure served to illustrate just how much McCain's selection of Palin has helped among conservatives. They not only rallied around Palin, but also praised Bristol for deciding to marry and have the baby.

"The media is already trying to spin this as evidence that Governor Palin is a hypocrite," said James Dobson, the founder of Focus on the Family. "But all it really means is that she and her family are human."

chicago

10-year-old girl slain in crossfire

She was tying sister's shoe when she was shot

Chicago Tribune

Holding her 5-year-old blind daughter in her lap, Linda Williams fought back tears as she recounted the moments before her 10-year-old daughter, Nequiel, was slain in gang crossfire outside their home Monday afternoon.

"She couldn't wait to start the 4th grade, she had her book bag ready, she had her clothes ready. Her grandmother just went shopping for her," Williams said as she sat in the girls' grandmother's West Side home.

Nequiel and her sister, Valerie, had just gone outside their home in the 8700 block of South Exchange Avenue to play when a bullet struck down Nequiel, leaving her sister standing next to her body, clinging to a house gate.

Saying she had an instinctive feeling, Williams was reluctant to let her daughters go outside Monday afternoon, but said Nequiel assured her it would be OK and that she would take her sister with her.

Minutes later, a neighbor ran into her apartment and said Nequiel had been shot, adding that he recognized the girl by the beads in her hair.

"At first I thought both of my daughters were hurt because they both were wearing hair beads," she said. "Then I ran out and found Nee-Nee laying on the ground."

Ralph Brack, 18, one of several neighbors who was outside on the holiday afternoon, said he heard about five gunshots out of nowhere and then a little girl crying out.

Brack ran outside, worried that his younger sister had been hurt. Instead he saw his sister's neighborhood friend Nequiel on the ground.

Neighbors said witnesses had told them Nequiel had just finished tying her sister's shoe when she was hit by the bullet.

WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN

Nequiel was to start 4th grade Tuesday at Arnold Mireles Academy, three blocks from her home. Chicago Public Schools chief Arne Duncan went there on the first day of class Tuesday to console officials dealing with the girl's death.

A Green Line train passes through the Loop. The Loop is one area that will undergo construction work, CTA President Ron Huberman said on Tuesday. CHERYL A. GUERRERO/TRIBUNE

A better Loop

New round of work set to begin on elevated tracks

Chicago Tribune

Slow zones now account for only 10 percent of track on CTA rail lines, transit officials said Tuesday.

The improvement, credited to aggressive repairs, reduces slow-zone track from a high of 22 percent last October, CTA President Ron Huberman said. The update was provided as a new round of track work is set to begin Wednesday on the Loop elevated structure.

The replacement of railroad ties installing a new signal system will cause inconveniences for riders through much of the fall.

But the goal is to have all the work done before Thanksgiving, resulting in faster and more reliable service around the Loop, Huberman said.

Track work in the Red Line subway is scheduled for completion by the end of October and by the end of the year on the O'Hare branch of the Blue Line.

The rehabbed rails will permit trains to operate at up to 55 mph instead of the 15 mph restrictions still in place over some deteriorated stretches of track through the more than 220-mile rail system.

The projects are aimed at cutting travel times and providing more capacity to serve the CTA's booming ridership growth.

In addition, a fourth track will be restored to service by year's end on the Brown Line corridor between the Belmont and Fullerton Stations serving the Brown, Red and Purple/Evanston Express Lines. Faster train speeds will result in shorter trips and give the CTA the option to add more train runs by recirculating trains more often on routes.

The move is not a solution to acquiring the additional rail cars that the CTA desperately needs, but extra train runs using existing equipment will help CTA officials add capacity to ease the crunch on overcrowded trains, particularly during peak travel periods.

During his news conference on the platform of the elevated Madison/Wabash Station downtown, Huberman also provided new details on the next phase of the project to modernize the CTA train signal system around the Loop.

The project is geared toward moving trains more efficiently around the Loop. The current problem of trains stopping and restarting between Loop stations because of signal restrictions causes delays and backups throughout the rail lines.

The project is scheduled to be completed in 2009.

HOW IT WILL WORK

» Southbound Brown Line trains entering the Loop will operate normally on the outer track until leaving the Library station. At that point, they will operate as Orange Line trains and travel to Midway Airport.

» Northbound Brown Line trains will operate from Roosevelt to the inner Loop track along Van Buren and Wells.

» Orange Line trains from Midway will enter the Loop from Roosevelt and operate on the inner track following their normal route to Washington/Wells. Then they will run as Brown Line trains to Belmont.

» Green Line trains from 63rd entering the Loop from Roosevelt will be rerouted to the inner track along Van Buren and Wells. Green Line trains from Harlem/Lake will enter the Loop from Clinton and be rerouted to the outer Loop track along Wells and Van Buren.

» Pink Line trains will enter the Loop from Clinton and be rerouted to the outer track and travel counter-clockwise, making their first stop at Washington/Wells.

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Hundreds join school boycott

Nearly 1,000 Chicago students on Tuesday got a tutorial in civic action aimed at spotlighting the disparities in Illinois public education as they missed the first day of city classes and instead attempted to register at two North Shore schools where educators and residents welcomed them.

The civics lesson continues Wednesday as some students again will miss school as part of a teach-in protest in the lobbies of more than a dozen Chicago businesses and agencies.

Critics charged that the symbolic, well-orchestrated protest shortchanged students of a day's education and Chicago Public Schools of more than $100,000 in potential reimbursement from the state. Mayor Daley on Tuesday described the boycott as "very selfish." Gov. Blagojevich said students "should not be used as political pawns."

The boycott's architect, state Sen. James Meeks (D-Chicago), defended his tactics. He urged Blagojevich and legislative leaders to call an emergency session to address how Illinois funds public schools.

Blagojevich said he will not meet with Meeks during the boycott, spokesman Lucio Guerrero said. He also affirmed the governor's opposition to raising income taxes as part of a funding solution.

Chicago students will again board buses Wednesday, traveling to 18 Chicago offices, including the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, City Hall, Boeing Corp. and Aon Insurance, according to Meeks' spokeswoman. Forty educators will deliver four hours of daily instruction during the boycott, which is expected to last through Friday.

Busloads of students, parents and ministers arrive on Tuesday at the Northfield campus of New Trier High School. Students attempted to register for classes on the first day of a Chicago schools boycott to protest disparities in school funding. CHUCK BERMAN/TRIBUNE

Governor recall referendum gains more traction

Flying under the political radar, supporters of a constitutional amendment to allow recall of the governor placed an advisory referendum on the Nov. 4 ballot to let Cook County voters weigh in on the issue.

Lt. Gov. Pat Quinn, historically not a politician to avoid the media spotlight, quietly spearheaded the drive to ask voters if the Illinois constitution should be altered to establish a process to boot the governor and other statewide elected officials out of office. Even if voters agree, the referendum won't result in any official changes. It could, however, potentially provide a show of support for the recall concept two years before the 2010 statewide elections.

"In my opinion, it's better than any poll because it's votes at a ballot box and that speaks a language any politician would understand," Quinn said Tuesday.

Earlier this year, House lawmakers pushed to include the recall question on ballots across the state, citing frustration with Gov. Blagojevich and an ongoing federal corruption investigation surrounding his administration.

But that proposal was stymied in the Senate under the leadership of President Emil Jones Jr., one of Blagojevich's biggest allies.

A Blagojevich spokesman said Tuesday that the governor supports giving voters the power to recall.

A CLOSER LOOK

The referendum question landed on the ballot after supporters collected about 900 signatures and submitted them to Cook County Clerk David Orr's office. The number of signatures was far short of what is usually required to include a referendum on a ballot, but no one challenged the submissions by the Aug. 25 deadline.

Archdiocese to offer counseling for families

Long scorned by victims' advocates for not doing enough to help survivors of clergy sex abuse, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago has tried to make up for lost time and lost souls.

On Tuesday, the archdiocese launched an unprecedented counseling initiative for the loved ones of those abused by deacons and priests, a group often overlooked on the path toward healing from sexual abuse.

Starting this week, victims' family members are invited to attend a series of four sessions led by a licensed clinical social worker. The sessions will include open discussion and information about how the abuse affects family bonds, boundaries and the healing process.

Kathleen Leggdas, a clinical coordinator in the archdiocese's office of assistance ministry, said family members often don't realize the long-term effects of sexual abuse and don't know where to go to rebuild the trust in relationships and restore hope.

"We know that family members deal with guilt. They deal with fear. They deal with their own anger," Leggdas said. Group sessions give parents, siblings and spouses "a sense of unity."

Barbara Blaine, president of the Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests, offered faint praise, reiterating a call for measures that will guard against future abuse, such as publicizing offenders' current whereabouts and the names of religious order priests accused of abuse.

But Matthew Hunnicutt, director of the archdiocese's office of assistance ministry, said that although many agencies offer support groups and therapy, the church has an obligation to reach out to victims and their family members. Many professional therapists leave spirituality out of the recovery process. This initiative puts emphasis on it, he said.

6 hurt when truck hits house

Six people were hurt Monday night when the cab section of a semitrailer truck slammed into a house on the Southeast Side, Chicago police said Tuesday. The accident occurred near East 83rd Street and South Yates Avenue, officials said. The cab ran a stop light, struck an SUV and crashed into the house, police said. The driver of the cab, a 34-year-old man, was taken into custody after a shotgun was found in his possession, police said.

Chicago Lawn shooting kills 1

A man was killed and another seriously wounded in a shooting Monday in the 7000 block of South Oakley Avenue in Chicago Lawn. A witness said he was in the car with at least one of the victims prior to the shooting, Chicago police said. The witness stepped out of the vehicle and later heard gunfire, said Officer Amina Greer. Upon his return to the vehicle, he found both victims bleeding either inside or outside of it, she said.

Logan Square man accused of throwing kitten off porch

A Logan Square man was charged with aggravated animal cruelty Tuesday after he flung a 2-month-old calico kitten from a second-story porch because he said it had scratched him, authorities said. The kitten suffered a broken pelvis. Wayne Evans, 49, of the 3700 block of West Dickens Avenue was arrested Monday after police responding to a call of animal abuse found the kitten lying in the street, police said.

Man charged in e-mail case

A Near West Side man has been charged with sending threatening e-mails, and the FBI alleges that in some of those messages, the man threatened to hurt or kill two federal officials. Vincenzio Di Giorgi, 30, of the 200 block of South Morgan Street was arrested at his home on Friday and charged with one count of making and sending an interstate threatening communication, according to the FBI. On Saturday morning, Di Giorgi was ordered held without bond.

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No more immunity for missing girl's mother

1 ORLANDO The mother of a missing Florida toddler no longer has an offer of immunity from prosecutors to help in the search.

The state attorney's office said it had not heard back from Casey Anthony before the offer expired Tuesday morning.

Anthony's attorney didn't immediately respond to a phone and e-mail message for comment.

Investigators have been searching for 3-year-old Caylee Anthony since mid-July when she was reported missing after not being seen for about a month.

Prosecutors had extended an offer of limited immunity to the mother in exchange for cooperation.

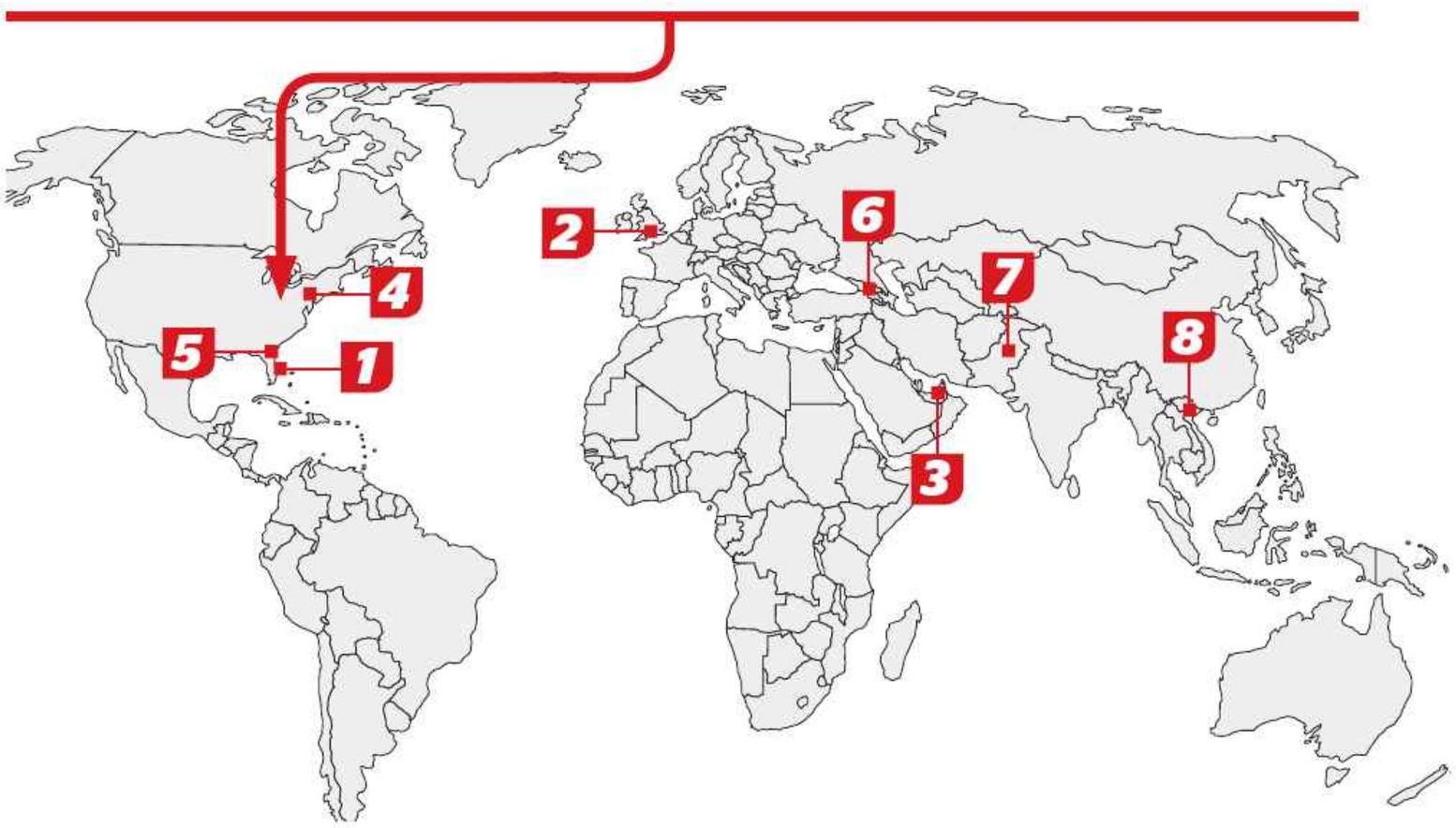
Investigators have called Casey Anthony, 22, a person of interest in Caylee's disappearance. She faces charges of child neglect, obstruction and making false statements in the case.

Lab tests confirmed a decomposing body had been in the trunk of a car driven by the missing girl's mother, and investigators believe the 3-year-old is dead, the sheriff's office said Monday.

"(FBI) laboratory evidence, along with additional evidence that has not been made public, leads investigators to the belief there is a strong probability that Caylee is deceased," the Orange County Sheriff's Office said. "If any evidence to the contrary is provided, it will be vigorously pursued."

11.5 lbs

A man nicknamed "Humble Bob" stuffed himself with 11.5 pounds of chili-spaghetti Monday in 10 minutes to win an eating contest in Mason, Ohio. (Editor's note: The dish, sometimes known as Cincinnati chili and consisting of chili, spaghetti and cheddar cheese, is delicious.)



2 Image help

London's Cambridge University wants to shed its elitist image. It thinks soap operas can help. The university said Tuesday it had written to producers of Britain's three leading soaps, encouraging them to include Cambridge in their story lines. A spokesman said the idea was to correct the perception that Cambridge was "not for young people from ordinary backgrounds."

3 Sex trial

A British couple on trial for allegedly having sex on a Dubai, United Arab Emirates, beach asked a judge on Tuesday to be allowed to leave the country, but the request was denied. Michelle Palmer and Vince Acors were arrested July 5 after they had been at a hotel party. They are charged with having sex outside of marriage, public indecency and public drunkenness.

4 Swear patrol

Police in Pittsburgh wrote nearly 200 disorderly conduct citations over a 32-month period for swearing, obscene gestures and other acts deemed disrespectful, a number that a civil rights group said was unacceptable and showed a lack of officer training. "Nobody likes to get sworn at, but you can't make it a crime," said Witold Walczak, legal director for the American Civil Liberties Foundation of Pennsylvania.

5 Athlete shot

Jacksonville Jaguars offensive tackle Richard Collier was shot and critically wounded outside an apartment building early Tuesday as he and a former Jacksonville teammate waited for two women they had met at a nightclub, police said. Collier, 26, and former Jaguars defensive end Kenneth Pettway were waiting in a Cadillac Escalade when a gunman fired into the vehicle, police said.

6 TSKHINVALI, SOUTH OSSETIA Bakers distribute free bread to residents on Tuesday. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Vladimir Putin said Russia will respond calmly to an increase in NATO ships in the Black Sea in the aftermath of the short war with Georgia, but promised that "there will be an answer." AP

7 MULTAN, PAKISTAN People watch on Tuesday as a fire consumes a grain market, destroying 40 shops. Officials say a short circuit might have caused the massive blaze. AP

8 HANOI It's not often you see children playing inside bubbles, but they did Tuesday during a celebration of Vietnam Independence Day at Thu Le Park. AP

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sports

What have you been up to lately?

For Michael Phelps, the answer is: A lot

Aug. 24
>> Greets a London crowd during an Olympics handover party before watching the closing ceremony in Beijing on a screen outside Buckingham Palace

Aug. 28
>> Shoots a cameo for HBO's "Entourage"
>> Appears at a YMCA in New York to encourage kids to learn to swim

DISNEY

Aug. 29
>> Joins a parade at Walt Disney World in Florida. On the agenda? Splash Mountain, of course.

Tuesday
>> Makes an appearance on NBC's "Today" show

Wednesday
>> Scheduled to be among 150 U.S. Olympians—including Dwyane Wade, Nastia Liukin and Kobe Bryant—who will be at Millennium Park to videotape the season premiere of "The Oprah Winfrey Show"
>> Will stump for Chicago's 2016 Olympic bid. He is scheduled to participate in a live chat at 5 p.m. at **chicago2016channel.com,** according to a press statement

Sunday
>> Will be a presenter at the MTV Video Music Awards in L.A.

Monday
>> Phelps' "Oprah" episode airs.

Sept. 13
>> Hosts the 34th season premiere of "Saturday Night Live"

REDEYE, AP, TRIBUNE, BALTIMORE SUN CONTRIBUTED

Michael Phelps attends the London 2012 Olympic handover party on Aug. 24 in England. Phelps will be in Chicago on Wednesday to stump for the city's 2016 Olympic bid. FREUD COMMUNICATIONS PHOTO VIA GETTY IMAGES

A big splash

Phelps hopes to do for swimming what Jordan did for basketball

Bloomberg

Michael Phelps set a lofty goal for himself in Beijing and delivered with an Olympic-record eight gold medals.

Now back in the U.S.—and in Chicago on Wednesday—Phelps has a new target: to increase swimming's popularity in his home country and around the world.

Phelps is looking to the example set by the Bulls' Michael Jordan, another gold-medal winner and five-time NBA Most Valuable Player, as he sets his sights on his latest mission.

"What he did for the sport of basketball, hopefully I can learn from him a little bit and take what he did and put it into swimming," Phelps said in an interview with Bloomberg Radio's "On the Ball" program, scheduled to air on Saturday.

Perhaps he'll have a chance to visit Jordan's statue outside the United Center after he has taped the premiere of "The Oprah Winfrey Show," along with 150 other members of the U.S. Olympics team. The show, set at Millennium Park, acts as both a "welcome home celebration" for the athletes and a chance to show off Chicago, which is bidding for the 2016 Summer Olympics.

Phelps also will participate in an online interview Wednesday afternoon to officially throw his support behind Chicago's 2016 bid.

Also on his Chicago agenda: A visit to a Chicago Park District pool to conduct a swim clinic for kids, and a private reception at the Hilton Chicago celebrating his history-making performance at the Beijing Games.

Michael Phelps helps a young girl swim recently at a pool in New York City. Phelps plans to start a foundation to promote water safety and youth swimming. GETTY IMAGES

With this kind of treatment, Phelps may be close to Jordan's VIP status in this town.

Phelps said he's always looked up to Jordan and made it a point to watch his games because of the way he changed basketball while a member of the Bulls.

Jordan became the most popular athlete in the U.S., helping the Bulls to six NBA championships in the 1990s. He was also one of the most marketed, hawking goods for Nike Inc., Coca-Cola Co., McDonald's Corp. and Hanesbrands Inc.

Five years removed from his playing career, Jordan still has clout, recently ranking 18th on Forbes' list of the Top 100 Celebrities. The magazine said Jordan makes $45 million a year, much of that in royalties from the $800 million a year in sales for Nike's Jordan Brand.

While Phelps has a long way to go before matching Jordan in the endorsement realm, he's already doing his part to increase interest in his own sport. REDEYE CONTRIBUTED.

BY THE NUMBERS

$1 million

Michael Phelps will put his $1 million bonus from Speedo to good use, announcing plans to start a foundation promoting water safety and youth swimming. The company, which has sponsored Phelps since he was 16, promised him the bonus if he tied or broke Mark Spitz's record for most gold medals at a single Olympics. Speedo International and the Warnaco Foundation will donate an additional $200,000 to the Michael Phelps Foundation. He plans to launch his new foundation with an eight-city tour.

FAN OR NOT A FAN?

While many sports watchers sing his praises, not everyone is sipping the Michael Phelps Kool-Aid. Read the comments, and you be the judge.

"When you're talking about the best athlete in the world, I think it needs to be somebody that's well rounded, that can do everything well. I think that's me at this point."

BRYAN CLAY
gold-medal decathlete, who did acknowledge to OK! magazine that Phelps "probably" is the best swimmer ever

"Phelps has eight gold medals, is dating Australian gold-medal swimmer Stephanie Rice, has signed to write his autobiography ... and will host the season premiere of 'Saturday Night Live.' When I was Phelps' age, I bought a new pair of foam dice for the rearview mirror of my '64 Buick Skylark."

GREG COTE
Miami Herald columnist

"I think there was an element of luck. I'm not saying he didn't deserve it, I'm saying he did everything he could do to win those golds and he came away with it, but at the same time there were little mistakes by other people that allowed him to do that."

EAMON SULLIVAN
Australian swimmer, referring to Phelps' close calls in the 100-meter butterfly and the 4x100-meter freestyle relay

"I definitely admire him for his athletic ability and everything he's achieved."

STEPHANIE RICE
Australian gold medalist and ex-girlfriend of Sullivan who has been romantically linked to Phelps in media reports

10 THINGS ...

... you may or may not know about Michael Phelps.

1 Jay-Z or Kanye West?
Jay-Z.

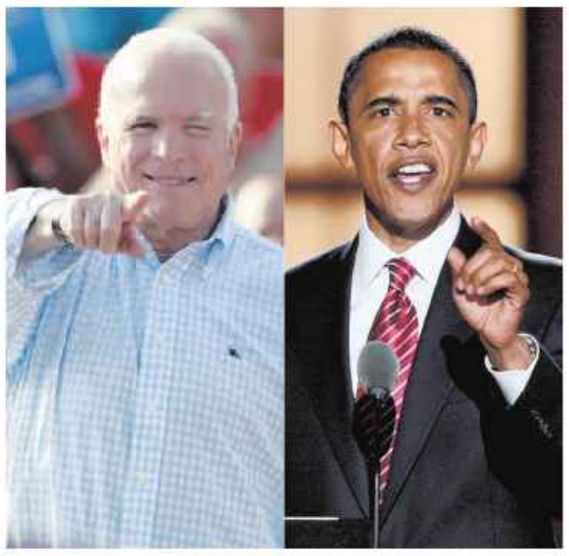
Debbie Phelps

MCT FILE

2 Who would be the hotter Chico's clothing-store model, Gisele Bundchen or Debbie Phelps?
My mom, of course. What kind of question is that?

3 H3 Hummer or 1972 Mustang?
'72 Mustang.

4 Favorite "Saturday Night Live" host?
Chris Farley.



5 John McCain or Barack Obama?
Private.

6 Swim the English Channel or Pacific Ocean?
Neither.

7 Craziest rumor about you?
That I dated [American swimmer] Amanda Beard and [British model] Lily Donaldson.

8 Last person you kissed?
My mom.

9 Kobe Bryant or LeBron James?
C'mon, you can't do that to me. They both showed their support and are sick ballers.

10 Next record to break?
Eating more.

ORLANDO SENTINEL

Check, please!

Mike North is going to do a live weekday show on **wildfirerestaurant.com** beginning Monday. Which reminds us, we've been waiting an hour on that water, Mike! Sign up at **redeyechicago.com/fiveonfive.**

TOPIC	MIKE NORTH mike@northtonorth.com	JIMMY GREENFIELD jgreenfield@tribune.com	TRACY SWARTZ tswartz@tribune.com	PHILLIP THOMPSON plthompson@tribune.com	LEO EBERSOLE lebersole@tribune.com
1 How will you welcome Michael Phelps to Chicago?	Shake his hand, and buy him a beef at Roma's.	With a visit to Shedd Aquarium to see if he has any relatives staying there.	It involves duct tape, night-vision goggles and a home rhinoplasty kit.	Mayor Daley greets him in a Speedo (preferably before he's had lunch).	By putting Mike North in a Speedo and yelling, "LOOK WHAT YOU HAVE WROUGHT!"
2 If you were making a guest appearance on "Oprah," what would you say to her?	I got no shot! Let's move on.	"It's nice to be here, but I'm pretty sure I was supposed to be on 'Springer.' "	"Show me your 'O' face."	"Cute little show you have here, Winfrey, but it's no 'Tyra.' "	"I have to be honest: You look less diamond-encrusted in person."
3 Tiger Woods is expecting a second child. Give some advice on baby names.	Driver if it's a boy. Nike if it's a girl.	Boy: Tigger. Girl: Eeyore.	Don't go with "one," "mini" or "Evan Rachel."	"Mini Driver" or "Putts."	When in doubt, go with a legend. Tyrell Sutton Woods has a nice ring to it.
4 Make a prediction about Notre Dame's opener.	I hope it's a win—but Charlie has to have a "D."	They'll lose and, shocking only Domers, the world will go on.	Is that when Charlie Weis opens his mouth and beef stroganoff comes out?	They play San Diego State? "Aztec ruins" comes to mind.	ND's players will regret the day they ever learned the state of San Diego existed.
5 Gov. Palin being a former sports reporter is like ...	... cool. She seems like a regular chick.	... George Bush being a former cheerleader.	... Ron Burgundy promoting dairy. Mil(k) was a bad choice, John McCain.	... Sen. Obama being a former bowler.	... Chris Berman running for king of Saudi Arabia.

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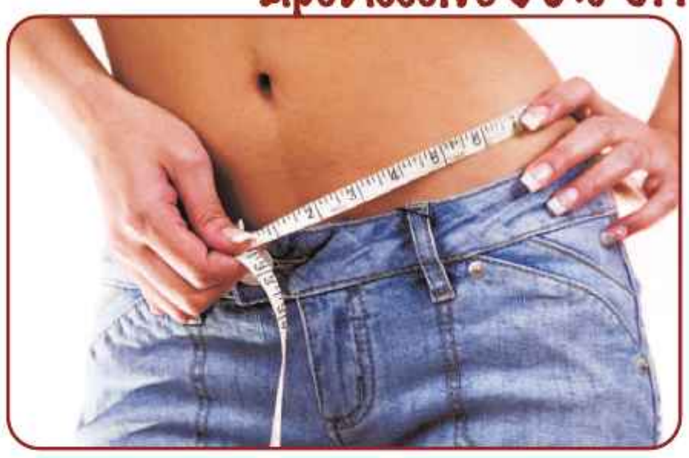

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HOMETOWN HITS

Buenning

The Bears added depth on the offensive line Tuesday via a trade. G Dan Buenning, a former starter with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, was acquired in exchange for the sixth-round draft pick the Bucs originally gave the Bears for QB Brian Griese. Buenning, a Green Bay native who grew up a Packers fan, was inactive all last season while recovering from a 2006 knee injury, so don't anticipate him coming in as a starter.

» To make room for Buenning, the Bears cut CB Zackary Bowman, their fifth-round pick from Nebraska.

» The Bears enter Sunday night's game against the Colts needing one more victory to become the league's first team to reach 50 opening-day victories.

ASTROS 9, CUBS 7, 11 INNINGS

Geoff Blum hit a two-run homer off Kerry Wood in the 11th inning to send the Houston Astros to their seventh straight victory, 9-7 over the Chicago Cubs on Tuesday night. The first-place Cubs, who have lost four straight, all at home, remained 4½ games ahead of Milwaukee in the NL Central.

» The Cubs' new-look "rested" rotation is set—partially—with Ted Lilly, Jason Marquis and Carlos Zambrano pitching the weekend series in Cincinnati and Ryan Dempster starting the first game in St. Louis next Tuesday.

INDIANS 9, WHITE SOX 3

The Sox lost the services of top slugger Carlos Quentin to a sore forearm Tuesday night before getting spanked 9-3 at Cleveland. Chicago remained tied with Minnesota for the AL Central lead despite losing for the fifth time in six games.

» If manager Ozzie Guillen had a choice, the White Sox wouldn't wait until their Sept. 23-25 series at Minnesota to decide the American League Central despite his earlier predictions. "If we go there to decide the division, it's going to be tough," Guillen said Tuesday.

» Mark Buehrle was excused to return to Chicago to attend to his wife Jamie, who was feeling ill, Guillen said. Buehrle isn't scheduled to pitch until Friday night against the L.A. Angels.

Fighting Irish balk at talk

Notre Dame ready to erase '07 memories with better play

Humbled as they are by the three-month flogging they endured in 2007, and optimistic as they are about redemption in 2008, Notre Dame's offensive linemen nevertheless recognize an underlying truth.

And that truth is: Talk is cheaper than discount-rack items at a 99-cent store.

Until Saturday's opener against San Diego State, and likelier beyond that, virtually no proof will exist that the biggest problem area during the Irish's '07 disaster will be a worry-free zone in '08.

Sizable weight-room gains? Improved camaraderie? Airtight knowledge of assignments? Show, don't tell.

"Everyone is going to have to sit back and wait," tackle Sam Young said. "We know what we're doing here. We are anxious to put the product on the field, though."

In fairness, at this point, all the Irish can do is talk the talk.

When they do they point to improved physicality based on improved knowledge of the system—whereas last year the line suffered through fits of "paralysis by analysis," a term guard Eric Olson borrowed from line coach John Latina.

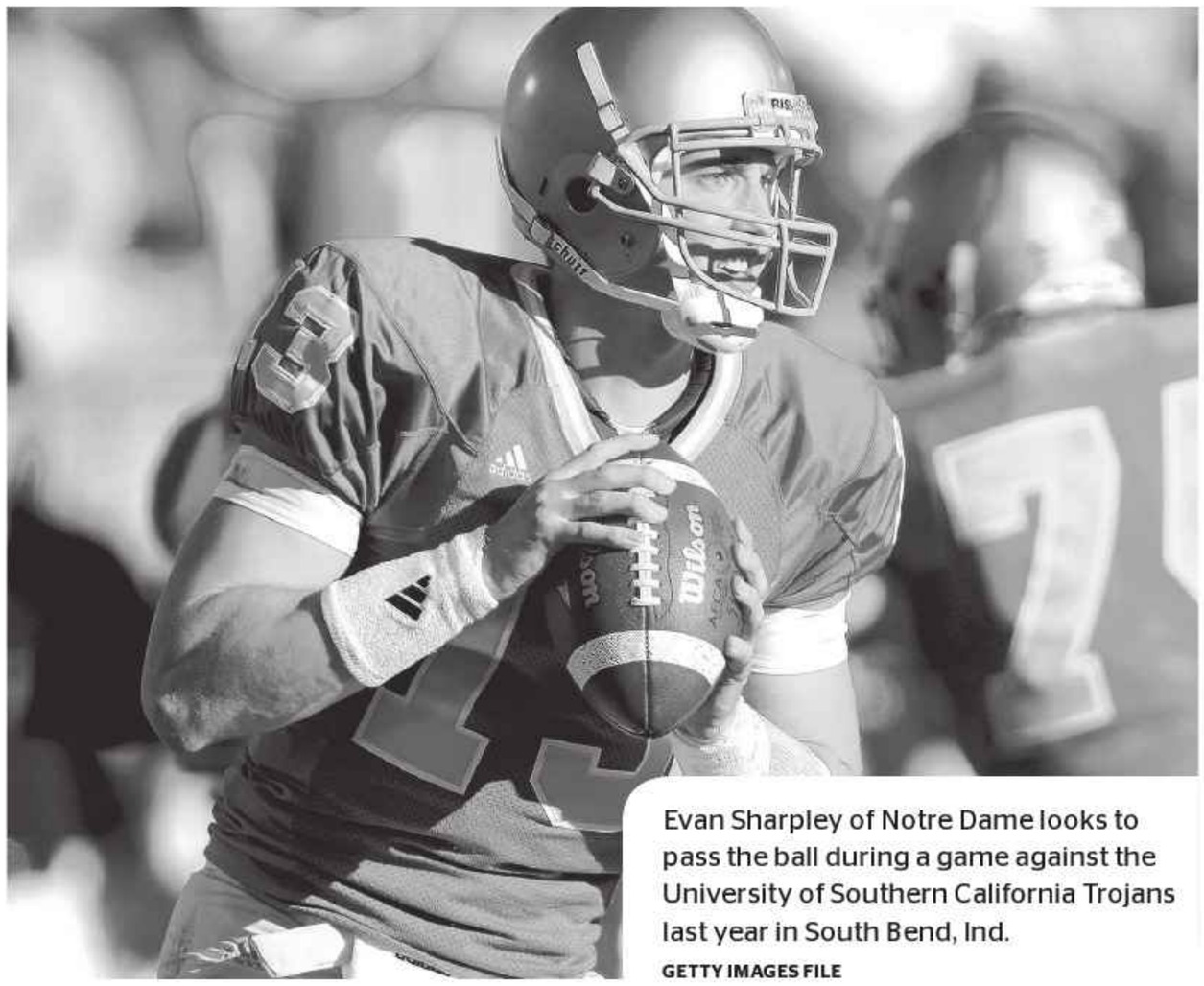
"When you get the assignments down, everyone can just fire off the ball and go hit somebody," Olson said.

"We played as hard as we could [in '07]. We tried. But when you have so much going on and the speed of the game is so much different than practice, even, it's tough for a young group to have success."

Notre Dame will contend for a Jan. 1 bowl—if everything that happened in 2007 reverses in 2008. The offensive line must overwhelm, not be overwhelmed. The quarterback must be healthy and capable.

A game-breaking offensive threat must materialize.

The defense must force mistakes and stand up to the run. This season will be considered a success—if the Irish win eight games, regardless of how.


Evan Sharpley of Notre Dame looks to pass the ball during a game against the University of Southern California Trojans last year in South Bend, Ind.
GETTY IMAGES FILE

ILLINOIS

Ron Zook believes three key things went wrong in Illinois' 52-42 loss to Missouri Saturday. The Illini coach says his players didn't tackle well, and defensively he and his coaches tried to do too many different things to slow down the No. 6 Tigers' high-powered offense.

And third, in Zook's view, his team paid too much attention to the flattery of football writers and their place in national polls. They also dropped in The Associated Press poll, from 20 to 24.

» With just a few days left before the turnstiles at the renovated Memorial Stadium open for the first time, work is still under way. But Illinois officials say that, with work going just about around the clock, the $121 million renovation will be all but complete when the Illini kick off their home schedule Saturday against Eastern Illinois.

» Hall of Famer Dick Butkus has said he will be on hand as the Illini don throwback jerseys that were worn in Butkus' era (1962-64).

ELSEWHERE:

» Southern California jumped two spots to No. 1 in The Associated Press Top 25 on Tuesday. USC's 52-7 victory Saturday at Virginia helped the Trojans vault past the Georgia Bulldogs and Ohio State Buckeyes from No. 3 in the preseason.

» Ohio State tailback Beanie Wells, who left last week's Youngstown State game with a painful injury to his right foot, is "doubtful" for Saturday's meeting with Ohio University, coach Jim Tressel said Tuesday.

BUZZER BEATER

More huddle, less cuddle

Central Florida's teleconference with coach George O'Leary was canceled Monday because officials accidentally gave the number for a phone sex line instead of the teleconference number. According to a blog by an Orlando Sentinel staffer, the voice on the other line said, "Hi sexy, you've reached the one-on-one fantasy line."

U.S. OPEN

Federer dodges upset

Avoiding as big an upset as tennis has seen in a while, Roger Federer came back to beat 23rd-seeded Igor Andreev of Russia 6-7 (5), 7-6 (5), 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 Tuesday night to reach the U.S. Open quarterfinals at the year's last Grand Slam tournament.

AND FINALLY ...

» The Ultimate Fighting Championship and its heavyweight champion Randy "The Natural" Couture say they've settled a public dispute over salary and scheduled Couture to fight Brock Lesnar on Nov. 15 at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas.

» Lorena Ochoa of Mexico says the new LPGA Tour policy requiring players to be effective in English starting in 2009 is a "little drastic."

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Fatten up!

Bikinis out, sweaters in: Pack it on for fall

S'mores pizza

By Beth Geraci

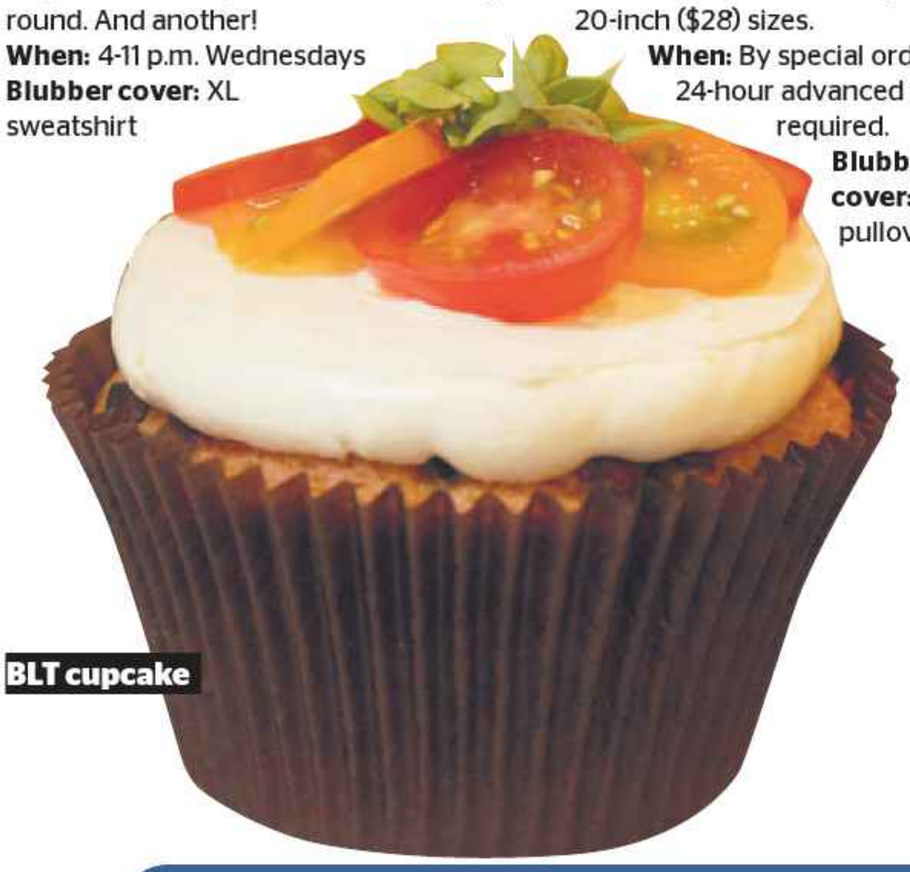
Summer's fleeting, and we all know what that means—no more worrying about bikini bods or washboard abs. Break out the bulky sweaters, throw dietary caution to the wind, and let the belly rolls roll with 10, too-good-to-resist decadent dishes.

1 Bottomless mac and cheese

Go carb crazy with this comfort-food deal at **Risque Cafe** (3419 N. Clark St. 773-525-7711). The $6 all-you-can-eat dish features ample mild cheddar cheese and heavy cream. Top it off with your choice of pulled meat ($2 additional) or vegetables. Then, have another round. And another!
When: 4-11 p.m. Wednesdays
Blubber cover: XL sweatshirt

2 S'mores pizza

The campfire classic meets pizza dough at **Ian's Pizza by the Slice** (3463 N. Clark St. 773-525-4580) with this uber-sweet dessert/pizza. And it's a cavity-maker: homemade crust topped with marshmallow fluff, graham crackers, chocolate chunks and mini-marshmallows, all baked to gooey perfection. Available in 12-inch ($14) or 20-inch ($28) sizes.
When: By special order; 24-hour advanced notice required.
Blubber cover: Fleece pullover



BLT cupcake

3 Martha's Special Occasion Carrot Cake

If no ordinary slice of carrot cake will do, sock it to your belly with this fist-sized hunk of pastry at **Hub 51** (51 W. Hubbard St. 312-828-0051). The mammoth three-layer wedge ($7) —named for owners R.J. and Jerrod Melman's mom—is served with a dollop of whipped cream and an extra scoop of cream cheese frosting, just in case the cake itself wasn't sinful enough.
When: Daily
Blubber cover: Cardigan

4 All-you-can-eat bacon

If the thought of endless amounts of bacon doesn't make your stomach turn, head to **Chinaski's** (1935 N. Damen Ave. 773-489-2353) and scarf down all the deep-fried sizzlin' strips your heart can handle—for free!
When: 6-10 p.m. Mondays
Blubber cover: Heavy-duty slicker

5 Thanksgiving Day Sandwich

Can't wait till November to gorge on Thanksgiving leftovers? Do it today at **Fat Cat** (4840 N. Broadway 773-506-3100). This heaping doozy is stacked high with roasted turkey, homemade herb stuffing, cranberry sauce and mayo ($8.95), and it's served with green bean casserole.
When: Daily
Blubber cover: Bathrobe (assuming you'll want a nap after this meal)

6 Biscuits and gravy

OK, this dynamic duo has zero nutritional value. We know it. You know it. But gosh darn, it's good. Washington Park newbie **Ms. Biscuit** (5431 S. Wabash Ave. 773-268-8088) hits it out of the park with its $4 version of the Southern classic: two baseball-sized, buttery biscuit-rolls topped with thick homemade sausage gravy.
When: Daily
Blubber cover: Old college hoodie

7 Chicken 'n' waffles

Calories be damned. The fried Southern-style entrees at **Chicago's Home of Chicken and Waffles** (3947 S. King Drive 773-536-3300) are too tempting to ignore. Heavyweights can order up the biggest thing on the menu: a half chicken and two waffles, smothered in gravy with onions ($14.30).
When: Daily
Blubber cover: Poncho

8 Kuma's Burger

Forget mini-burgers. With this $10 whopper (no pun intended), **Kuma's Corner** (2900 W. Belmont Ave. 773-604-8769) gives diners the green light to gorge. The 10-ounce hunk of fresh ground beef is topped with cheddar, bacon—and a fried egg, all sandwiched between a pretzel roll with your choice of fries or chips.
When: Daily
Blubber cover: Big ol' parka

9 Cheesy Sundays

Say, "cheese please!" for this decadent weekly freebie at **Taste Food & Wine** (1506 W. Jarvis Ave. 773-761-3663.). The Rogers Park wine shop serves up a spread of complimentary picks every Sunday, ranging from brie and blue to cheddar and manchego.
When: 11 a.m. Sundays
Blubber cover: Light jacket

10 BLT cupcake

A BLT cupcake? Believe it. At new Gold Coast bakery **More** (1 E. Delaware Place 312-951-0001), the choices don't stop at chocolate. This bacon cupcake, topped with ranch frosting, heirloom tomato and microgreens ($4.25), gets our nod for lunch. Oh, and we'll take the salted caramel-filled buttercake cupcake ($3.95) for dessert. Call in your order before More officially opens Sept. 12.
When: Daily
Blubber cover: Puffy coat

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Red Ball Project

best bets

BY JULIA BORCHERTS
metromix@tribune.com

WEDNESDAY FREEBIE

One-man band

Jay Pritzker Pavilion, Millennium Park, 201 E. Randolph St. 312-742-1168.

Two days back in the office and you're already feeling trapped? Fly away with local violin virtuoso, vocalist and multi-instrumentalist **Andrew Bird** at his only public Chicago appearance in '08. The Occidental Brothers Dance Band International opens the show with an Afro-beat set. 6:30 p.m.

wed 3

Round and about town

Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies, 610 S. Michigan Ave. 312-744-6630.

Chicago-bred artist Kurt Perschke's **Red Ball Project**—a traveling, site-specific installation starring a bright, 15-foot inflated sphere—has appeared in Australia, Barcelona, South Korea and other far-flung locales. This month, it pops up on bridges, wedged in alleys and more outdoor spaces around the city. On Wednesday, see it in front of the Spertus Institute. 11 a.m. Through Sept. 25. Free.

'Look' it up

Wine Discount Center, 1826 1/2 N. Elston Ave. 773-489-3454.

Uber-pricey vintages might be easy on the palate, but if you're looking for wine that's easy on the budget, head to the **First Look tasting**, which features samples of more than 30 new offerings starting at $8.99 per bottle. Labels include Willow Crest pinot gris, Sandiliano Barolo and more. 6:30 p.m. $10. Reservations recommended.

thu 4

Express yourself

Glazed Expressions, 717 W. Armitage Ave. 312-867-1792.

Get crafty at **Diva Night** with complimentary appetizers, raffle prizes and $2 discounts on pottery pieces. Here's how it works: Buy an unglazed piece, paint it while listening to a grrrl-power mix on the store's sound system and pick it up a week later, after it's been fired in the kiln. Guys are also welcome. 6 p.m. Free.

fri 5

Art of the party

Museum of Contemporary Art, 220 E. Chicago Ave. 312-397-4010.

Celebrate the weekend at **First Fridays**, where the after-work party's "Celebration" theme honors current exhibiting artist Jeff Koons' series of works by the same title. Festivities include a party favor creation station, a digital dating bar, tunes from DJ Megan Taylor, complimentary Wolfgang Puck appetizers and a cash bar. Sip specialty drinks including the Koons Cosmo and the Rabbit-tini while you peruse the "12x12: New Artists/New Work" exhibition featuring Von Kommanivanh. 6 p.m. $7-$15.

sat 6

In the bag

John Barleycorn, 658 W. Belden Ave. 773-348-5322.

Have some fun for a good cause at the **Second Annual Battle of the Bags** fundraiser for the Ronald McDonald House near Children's Memorial Hospital. Compete in a two-person baggo team (prizes include travel vouchers; Cubs, Sox and Bears tickets; and more) or just watch the action. Includes domestic drafts, select mixed drinks and appetizers, all of which should help improve your aim. 1 p.m. $35 for spectators; $100 per team.

HOW TO REACH US | FOR ENTERTAINMENT INFORMATION 24/7, GO TO **METROMIX.COM**.

Metromix is published Monday through Saturday as part of RedEye, an edition of the Chicago Tribune.

For questions, comments and story ideas, contact Matt McGuire, editor, at **metromix@tribune.com**

To submit event information for Metromix or **metromix.com**, go to **metromix.com/listings**.

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Inside...

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Old Oak Tap
CHUAN D. VO FOR METROMIX

By Lisa Arnett

Leave it to three West Town residents to dream up what they thought was missing on Chicago Avenue: an upscale but unpretentious neighborhood hang with a killer beer garden.

Chris and Susan Ongkiko, owners of The Continental, and Amy Teri of Darkroom are behind the brand-new Old Oak Tap. Sitting on a double-wide lot just west of Damen Avenue, this stunner of a beer bar is the shiniest, newest thing in sight (runner-up: the Dominick's that moved in last fall).

Inside

Old Oak has kind of a lumberjack-meets-contemporary condo look, from the CB2 lime-green leather chairs and the Crate and Barrel cutting boards that hold appetizers to chunky log-legged tables and a mirror framed with tree branch slices. Gothic lanterns and chandeliers hang from the soaring ceiling, and a cozy second-floor alcove with a chocolate suede banquette and its own bar provides a hidden vantage point—and is the perfect size for small private parties.

A DJ or two were plucked from Darkroom to spin indie rock, R&B and soul on Friday and Saturday nights, but the floorplan is more suited for socializing than dancing. Two chairs flanking a candle-topped stone fireplace and a checkerboard-top table with chairs crafted from wooden barrels provide intimate nooks for conversation.

Outside

The spacious, 76-seat front patio lined with greenery is the first thing you'll see from the street. Whether 7 p.m. on a weeknight or 11 p.m. on a weekend, we found it brimming with locals soaking up the fair weather (and presumably cursing the fact that it opened two weeks ago instead of two months ago). If you can't bear to wait for an outdoor table, the inside feels almost as summery when the three sets of huge doors are swung wide open.

Drinks

There's a small wine list and a full bar, but you really should be drinking beer here. With 20 by-the-bottle picks and 12 on tap, it's the kind of collection that would have been groundbreaking a few years ago, but now is just considered solid. Beer novices will appreciate the menu's succinct flavor clues, while brew geeks will admire high-end picks on tap, such as Delerium Tremens Belgian golden ale ($8) and the dark and spicy Cane and Ebel Red Rye Ale ($5) from west-suburban-based Two Brothers Brewing Company. And you still can get a $3 pint of PBR.

Eats

A menu of shareable plates, salads and sandwiches by former Mas chef John Manion is a right-on match for Old Oak's upscale-casual feel. Soft homemade pretzels ($9) are worth ordering just for the ultra-rich Guinness cheese sauce that accompanies them. If you adore meat, go for the pork sampler ($12), an indulgent lineup of silky pulled pork, spicy sausages and a thick square of insanely buttery braised bacon. And though this is the furthest thing from a sports bar (the one TV behind the bar was off during our visit) you still can score three kinds of wings: sweet and spicy sirachi, jerk chicken and classic buffalo with cheddar-ranch dressing ($8).

Crowd

Old Oak's crowd clearly mirrors the changing neighborhood—a mix of artists and musicians that have lived nearby for years, mixed with new-to-the-nabe young professionals and families. "We've seen a lot more strollers than we thought we would," says Chris. Weekend nights bring in everyone from girls'-night-outers in summer frocks to casual couples in flip-flops and jeans to Converse-clad bike messengers.

Service

Barely open for two weeks, the staff still is adjusting to the crowds and handling snafus with a smile.

Bottom line

There's something refreshing about a new venture built from the ground up by local biz owners—rather than corporate cronies seeking to capitalize on the next hot neighborhood. For elevated eats and a pint on the patio along this stretch of Chicago Avenue, you can't do much better.

LISA ARNETT IS THE METROMIX NIGHTLIFE AND SHOPPING PRODUCER. LMARNETT@TRIBUNE.COM

Green weekend

Choose produce with Signature Room executive chef Patrick Sheerin Saturday at Green City Market, then return to the restaurant Sunday for a cooking demo and brunch.

312 CHICAGO
5-10 p.m. Wed.: $40 four-course localvore dinner. Chef Dean Zanella uses ingredients from local farmers for a weekly changing four-course menu. Sip wine or cocktail pairings for an additional $15; 136 N. La Salle St. 312-696-2420.

AI JAPANESE RESTAURANT
Sun.: $31.95 all-you-can-eat menu, $2 sake bombs and football-themed rolls during Bears games; 358 W. Ontario St. 312-335-9888.

BONSOIREE CAFE & DELICACIES
Wed.: $5 foie gras with menu purchase; 2728 W. Armitage Ave. 773-486-7511.

CAFE MATOU
5 p.m. Wed.-Thu., Sun.: $23 three-course menu; 1846 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-384-8911.

CAFE SELMARIE
Wed.: Half-price bottles of wine; 4729 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-989-5595.

CHICAGO GREEN CITY MARKET
9 a.m. Sat.: Garden Fresh Weekend. Meet at the market's main entrance on Saturday to shop for produce with The Signature Room executive chef Patrick Sheerin. On Sunday, (10:30 a.m.), head to the restaurant (875 N. Michigan Ave.) for a brunch cooking demo led by Sheerin. Afterward, dine on the creations during a champagne brunch. Also includes recipes. $75; 1750 N. Clark St. 312-280-0472.

CYRANO'S BISTROT AND WINE BAR
Wed.-Sun.: $20.08 two-course, $26.08 three-course and $31.95 four-course pre-theater dinners until 6 p.m; 546 N. Wells St. 312-467-0546.

FOODLIFE
6 p.m. Fri.: Wine Down. Sample 20 international wines. Includes snacks. $20; 835 N. Michigan Ave. 312-335-3663.

FRASCA PIZZERIA AND WINE BAR
Wed.: Two-for-one pizzas; 3358 N. Paulina St. 773-248-5222.

JUST GRAPES
5:30 p.m. Wed.: First Wednesdays. A themed monthly tasting with experts on hand for questions. $25-$35. Registration recommended: **justgrapes.net**; 560 W. Washington Blvd. Suite 100. 312-627-9463.

LA MADIA
Wed.-Sun.: $5 select glasses of wine; 7 p.m. Wed.: Chef's Table. Watch chef/owner Jonathan Fox and his staff prepare pizza and menu specials, then sample their cooking during this monthly event. Includes wine pairings. $25. Reservations recommended; 59 W. Grand Ave. 312-329-0400.

MARCHE
5:30-10 p.m. Wed.-Thu., Sun.: $50 Red Light gift certificate with $20 food purchase; 833 W. Randolph St. 312-226-8399.

NACIONAL 27
5:30-6:15 p.m. Wed.-Sun.: $29.95 three-course Latin meal with wine or sangria; 325 W. Huron St. 312-664-2727.

POWERHOUSE RESTAURANT
11 a.m. Wed.-Fri.: $25 three-course lunch. Includes a choice of soup/salad/risotto, an entree and "sweet potato donuts" for dessert; 215 N. Clinton St. 312-928-0800.

ROOM 21
6 p.m. Thu.: Fish grilling class. Chef Daniel Tucker demonstrates how to grill seafood during an alfresco cooking lesson and tasting. Includes a choice of fish, plus sides, seasonings, wine pairings, recipes and a souvenir apron. $55. Reservations required; 2110 S. Wabash Ave. 312-328-1198.

SEPIA
10:30 a.m. Sun.: Seedling Fruit Brunch. A multi-course fruit-based brunch incorporates seasonal fruit from Seedling Orchards. $25; 123 N. Jefferson St. 312-441-1920.

SOUTH LOOP WINE CELLAR
6:30 p.m. Fri.: Wine tasting. A weekly sampling of four wines with snacks. $5; 1442 S. Michigan Ave. 312-356-0630.

SOUTH WATER KITCHEN
11 a.m.-2 p.m. Fri.: $15-$20 all-you-can-eat fish fry; 5 p.m. Sun.: Three-course family-style dinner at 5 p.m.; 225 N. Wabash Ave. 312-236-9300.

SUSHISAMBA RIO
5:30 p.m. Sun.: Brazilian Independence Day Celebration. Special menu items (prices vary), live samba dancing and capoeira, Carnaval-costumed dancers and live music; 504 N. Wells St. 312-595-2300.

WAVE
2:30-6:30 p.m. Wed.-Sun.: $30 afternoon tea. Two menus include five savory small bites, sweets with Devonshire cream, lemon curd and jam, and hot or iced tea; 2:30 p.m. Sat.: The Global Kitchen Silk Road Cooking Classes. Monthly cooking demo showcases fare from around the world. Includes cocktails, lunch with wine pairings, plus a gift bag with recipes. $45; 644 N. Lake Shore Drive. 312-255-4460.

WINE DISCOUNT CENTER
6:30 p.m. Wed.: "First Look" tasting. Features samplings of more than 30 wines; noon-4 p.m. Sat.: Free wine tasting. Sip 10 wines highlighted in the monthly newsletter; 1826 1/2 N. Elston Ave. 773-489-3454.

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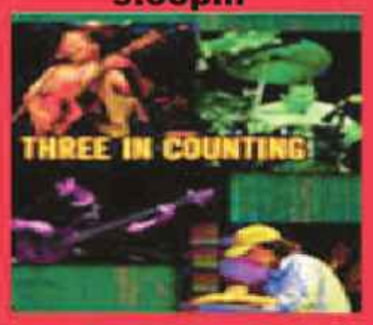

Saturday, September 13
IFFICIAL REGGAE MOVEMENT
MEETS SLACKY J
10:00pm

Friday, September 19
JaBu
THE FUZ
THINNER TEED
9:00PM
More Reggae Coming

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Q101 Block Party aftershow
INNERPARTYSYSTEM
THE URGENCY
FREE SHOW!
SUNDAY SEPT 14th... FREE SHOW!
Q101 Block Party aftershow
LOW VS. DIAMOND Q101
SATURDAY SEPT 20th... 93 XRT
XRT 1/2 Way to St. Pat's
CRACKER

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Sept 19...Seth Bradley CD Release / Clark Richard / MER / How Far To Austin
Sept 25...FREE SHOW...Weber Band
Sept 27...Wedding Banned
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ABERDEEN
$6 mini-sandwich trio, $15 Heineken and Amstel Light buckets; 1856 W. North Ave. 773-772-5500.

BETWEEN BOUTIQUE CAFE AND LOUNGE
Half-price select martinis and complimentary bites; 1324 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-292-0585.

BLUE LINE
$5 specialty and Absolut martinis; 1548 N. Damen Ave. 773-395-3700.

CHAISE LOUNGE
Half-price select bottles of wine; 1840 W. North Ave. 773-342-1840.

CHINASKI'S
7:30 p.m. Literary Open Mic. No cover; 1935 N. Damen Ave. 773-489-2353.

COUCH BAR & GRILL
20 cent wings, $2 domestic beers, $3 Amstel Light bottles; 2344 W. Grand Ave. 312-942-9030.

CROBAR
Tropical Wednesdays. DJs spin salsa, merengue, club and reggaeton 10 p.m. $10; 1543 N. Kingsbury St. 312-266-1900.

DARKROOM
9 p.m. The Herbaliser. DJ Ollie Teeba and guests spin; $10; 2210 W. Chicago Ave. 773-276-1411.

EVIL OLIVE
$6 20-ounce Stella bombs; 1551 W. Division St. 773-235-9100.

FIVE STAR BAR
10 cent wings, $2 Tecate cans; 1424 W. Chicago Ave. 312-850-2555.

THE FRANKLIN TAP
$3 import bottles, half-price appetizers with drink purchase after 6 p.m.; 325 S. Franklin St. 312-212-3262.

FULTON LOUNGE
$6 mojitos; 955 W. Fulton Market. 312-942-9500.

GALLERY CABARET
$3-$10 Alpha King and Newcastle drafts and pitchers, live music at 9:30 p.m.; 2020 N. Oakley Ave. 773-489-5471.

GRACE O'MALLEY'S
$3 Bud and Bud Light bottles, $6 Jager bombs; 1416 S. Michigan Ave. 312-588-1800.

HAWKEYE'S
Half-price pizzas after 3 p.m., $13 Bud and Bud Light buckets; 1458 W. Taylor St. 312-226-3951.

HIDEOUT
$2 PBR and Old Style cans, $2.50 Berghoff bottles; 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

HIGH DIVE
$1 mini-cheeseburgers, $2.50 Bud Light drafts, $4 Dewars cocktails; 1938 W. Chicago Ave. 773-235-3483.

HOGS & HONEYS
$3 beers and cocktails; 901 W. Weed St. 312-377-1733.

INNJOY
$1 off glasses of wine, $4 Newcastle drafts, $6 Malibu mango margaritas, half-price large pizzas; 2051 W. Division St. 773-394-2066.

JOE'S
5 p.m. Doggy Happy Hour. Have drinks with your pooch on the patio. Drink specials include $3 domestic bottles and $6 Coors Light pitchers. No cover; 940 W. Weed St. 312-337-3486.

JUN BAR
$5 martinis; 2050 W. Division St. 773-486-6700.

JUNIOR'S
$5 specialty martinis and Bacardi mojitos, half-price appetizers; 724 W. Maxwell St. 312-421-2277.

LAVA
The Seminar. Guest DJs spin 7 p.m. $3-$10; 1270 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-342-5282.

LOTTIES PUB
$2 beer cans, $3 chicken sandwiches, $4 cocktails; 1925 W. Cortland Ave. 773-489-0738.

THE MAP ROOM
50 cents off select drafts; 1949 N. Hoyne Ave. 773-252-7636.

THE MARTINI BAR
$2 Blue Moon, Miller Lite and St. Pauli Girl drafts; 401 S. LaSalle St. 312-377-6111.

MICKEY'S TAVERN
$2.50 Heineken, Heineken Light and Beck's bottles; 2345 N. Leavitt St. 773-394-3037.

MOONSHINE
9 p.m. Mamby. Trilogy, Bear Who?, New Life, Intel. No cover; 1824 W. Division St. 773-862-8686.

PEOPLE LOUNGE
$3 glasses of sangria and Miller Light bottles, $5 Absolut cocktails, DJ 14K and guests spin 9 p.m. No cover; 1560 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-227-9339.

PIECE
$4 well drinks; 1927 W. North Ave. 773-772-4422.

PLAN B BAR + KITCHEN
$1 Bud Light drafts, half-price appetizers and glasses of wine, Chris Grant of Trippin' Billies hosts open mic 9 p.m. No cover; 1635 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-252-2680.

POAG MAHONE'S
$3 Bud Light pints, $6 glasses of sangria, half-price spinach artichoke dip and chips and salsa 3 p.m.; 333 S. Wells St. 312-566-9100.

NIGHTCRAWLERS

Get addicted

Locals sipped beer and showed their school colors at West Loop sports bar Addiction (1023 W. Lake St. 312-421-8845), opened by the owner of The Rail in Ravenswood. Visit **metromix.com** for more pics and upcoming events.

CHUAN D. VO FOR METROMIX

RED KIVA
Half-price pizza; 1108 W. Randolph St. 312-226-5577.

RELAX LOUNGE
$2 Miller Lite bottles, $5 Effen cocktails; 1450 W. Chicago Ave. 312-666-6006.

SIDEBAR GRILLE
$5 boneless wings and spinach dip (3 p.m.), $5 Absolut cocktails, $7 martinis; 221 N. La Salle St. 312-739-3900.

SILVER CLOUD
$6 John Daly cocktails; 1700 N. Damen Ave. 773-489-6212.

SUBTERRANEAN
$3 Tecates and Ketel One lemon drop shots, DJs Sean Alvarez and Christian Armand spin. No cover; 2011 W. North Ave. 773-278-6600.

TANTRUM
$3 glasses of wine; 1023 S. State St. 312-939-9160.

TUMBAO BAR & GRILL
9 p.m. Bossa Tres performs; 3213 W. Armitage Ave. 773-772-9800.

TWISTED SPOKE
$3 Jim Beam cocktails and grab bag beer bottles, half-price whiskey cocktails; 501 N. Ogden Ave. 312-666-1500.

UNION PARK
$1 well drinks and domestic drafts; 228 S. Racine Ave. 312-243-9002.

VAUGHAN'S PUB NORTHWEST
$3 Blue Moon pints, $14 domestic buckets, $1.50 mini-cheeseburgers, $6.95 beef stew or fried chicken dinner; 5485 N. Northwest Highway. 773-631-9206.

VILLAINS
$2 PBR cans; 649 S. Clark St. 312-356-9992.

WABASH TAP
$5.50 reubens, $14 Bud and Bud Light buckets; 1233 S. Wabash Ave. 312-360-9488.

WEATHER MARK TAVERN
$2 domestic bottles, $6 brats; 1503 S. Michigan Ave. 312-588-0230.

ZAPATISTA
$3 Dos Equis Lager bottles and Tecate and Tecate Light cans; 1307 S. Wabash Ave. 312-435-1307.

FEST FLASH

Guinness Oyster Fest
When: Noon Saturday
Where: Damen Avenue and Roscoe Street
Entry: $7 donation
Get there: No. 50 Roscoe bus; Addison Brown Line
The basics: We're not thrilled that summer is over, but this fall kickoff helps take the edge off. Salute the season with fresh-shucked oysters and pints of Guinness and Harp while dancing to live music from L.A. alt-rockers Carolina Liar, rapper and rock singer Everlast and more. Don't like oysters? Additional eats are available.
Don't miss: Beer and oysters. Need we say more?

Guinness Oyster Fest
MICHAEL MCLAUGHLIN FILE FOR METROMIX

MORE FESTIVALS

FREE!

88th Annual German-American Festival
Raise a mug in Lincoln Square at this cultural booze fest with traditional eats, beer, live music, folk dancing, a parade (2 p.m. Saturday) and more. 5 p.m. Friday; noon Saturday-Sunday. Free. Lincoln and Leland Avenues.

Italian Village Ferrari Festival
Love pasta? Have a fancy-car fetish? Kill two birds with one stone. Inside the restaurant, hit a buffet of Italian fare. Outside, ogle a display of more than 50 award-winning Ferraris along Monroe Street from Clark to Dearborn Streets. 11 a.m. Sunday. $25. Vivere, 71 W. Monroe St.

FREE!

Pullman Hobo Fest
This old timey celebration includes food, music, crafts and folk singing at locations surrounding the Historic Pullman Foundation Visitor Center and Historic District. Noon Saturday-Sunday. 11141 S. Cottage Grove Ave.

Ukrainian Village Fest
A neighborhood church's grounds turn into a beer garden and food court, offering ethnic fare, live music and raffle prizes. 5 p.m. Friday; 1 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Free on Friday; $5 Saturday-Sunday. Saints Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church, 2245 W. Superior St.

Windy City Wine Festival
Sample more than 250 international vintages from about 50 vendors in Daley Bicentennial Plaza ($25 entry fee buys 10 tasting tickets; $5 for each additional strip of 10). Includes cooking demos. 4 p.m. Friday; 3 p.m. Saturday. 337 E. Randolph St. Tickets: **windycitywinefestival.com**

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	1652 N. Milwaukee Ave.*	773-489-6200
	3620 W. Irving Park Rd.*	773-463-5364
	4265 N. Harlem Ave.* (across from the HIP)	708-457-1377
	810 W. North Ave.*	312-397-5800
CHICAGO SOUTH	120 W. 87th St.	773-994-9100
	3435 W. 26th St.*	773-522-9300
CHICAGO CITY	500 W. Madison**	312-831-0127
	500 N. Michigan Ave.*	312-464-1390
	209 S. LaSalle St.**	312-658-3900
	1103 S. State St.*	312-291-0499
CHICAGO RIDGE	Chicago Ridge Mall*	708-346-9557
CRESTWOOD	13447 S. Cicero Ave.*	708-396-9822
HODGKINS	9402 Joliet Rd.*	708-387-0554
NORTH RIVERSIDE	North Riverside Park Plaza* 7501 W. Cermak Rd.*	708-442-0755
WHEATON	109 W. Geneva Rd.	630-668-2199
WILLOWBROOK	NEW! 7450 Kingery Highway	630-887-2944

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NEWL

Fall concert guide

We pick the season's top shows from local and national artists—plus a handful of fests

By Matt Pais

Yeah, summer's over. But the 2008 music calendar is still red-hot. From top local bands to national acts that aren't afraid of a little Chicago chill, these are the concerts you can't miss through November. (You'll have to be patient for New Year's Eve show announcements.) As a bonus: Four great festivals, because Lollapalooza and Jazz Fest weren't your last chances to stuff a full day of music in one place.

Ra Ra Riot

Local

Andrew Bird

Wednesday at Millennium Park's Jay Pritzker Pavilion

In the midst of finishing his new record, the eclectic multi-instrumentalist plays this highly anticipated free show. See Page 22 for more details.

Bound Stems

Bound Stems

Sept. 12 at Hideout

Restless indie rockers play a record release show for the excellent "The Family Afloat," out Sept. 9.

Icy Demons

Sept. 14 at Empty Bottle

These genre-hoppers will make you scratch your head and do enough swaying and lunging to possibly qualify as dancing.

Yea Big + Kid Static

Sept. 21 at Abbey Pub

The kind of hip-hop you used to listen to, when beats jumped, lyrics flowed and rappers sounded like they did it for the fun of it.

The Interiors

Sept. 24 at Empty Bottle

Smart, noisy guitar rock from this buzz band, which released its self-titled debut June 24.

Rachael Yamagata

Oct. 1 at Lakeshore Theater

Piano princess plays songs from her haunting new album, "Elephants ... Teeth Sinking Into Heart," out Oct. 7. Technically she lives in Philly now, but we'll give her a pass, since she spent years in Chicago going to school and as a member of Bumpus.

Morse Theatre grand opening

Oct. 3-4

Local artists soon to be announced. We're just jazzed to see this new Rogers Park venue in action.

National

Ra Ra Riot

Sept. 11 at Subterranean

One of our favorite new indie bands supports its just-released full-length debut, "The Rhumb Line." Chicago dance-pop duo Walter Meego opens.

Cut Copy

Cut Copy

Sept. 17 at Metro

A longer showcase for the Australian dance-pop outfit, who played for only about 25 minutes after an hour delay at Pitchfork.

Fleet Foxes

Fleet Foxes

Oct. 12 at Metro

Acclaimed, lightweight jam-pop follows up on the group's terrific set at Pitchfork.

Atmosphere

Atmosphere

Oct. 16 at Vic Theatre

Hip-hop act finally finds the audience it deserves, on the shoulders of this year's great "When Life Gives You Lemons, You Paint That S*** Gold."

Yeasayer

Oct. 28 at Bottom Lounge

New Yorkers predict a bleak future while re-imagining how world music-influenced indie sounds today.

Jason Mraz

Nov. 22 at Aragon

This talented live performer now has a quality studio album to draw from thanks to this year's "We Sing. We Dance. We Steal Things."

FIND FULL SHOW INFO AT METROMIX.COM

FESTIVALS

Hideout Block Party

Sept. 20-21

The always-reliable fest spends its 12th year with Neko Case, Ratatat, Rhymefest, Black Mountain and others.

World Music Festival

Sept. 19-25, various locations

10th annual event offers a host of free (and non-free) shows to expand your palate.

Hyde Park Jazz Festival

Sept. 27, various locations

Hot sounds stream across the neighborhood for 14 hours during this second annual free bash.

Chicago Bluegrass and Blues Festival

Nov. 22 at Congress Theater

A rockin' day full of Americana with The Avett Brothers, Ha Ha Tonka and more.

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THE venue

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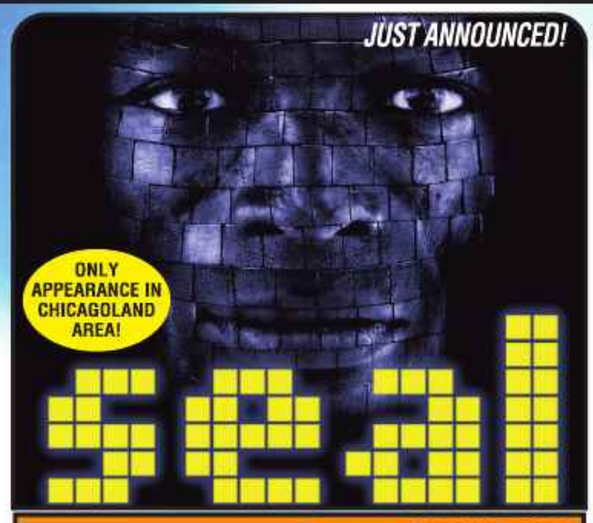
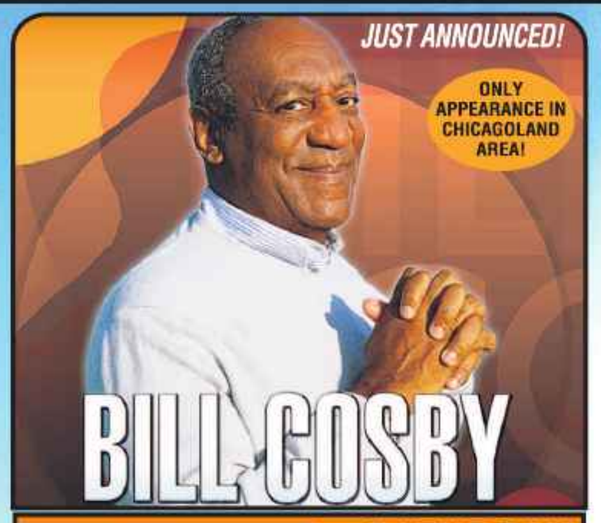


TICKETS ON SALE THIS FRIDAY AT NOON! SUNDAY OCT 5

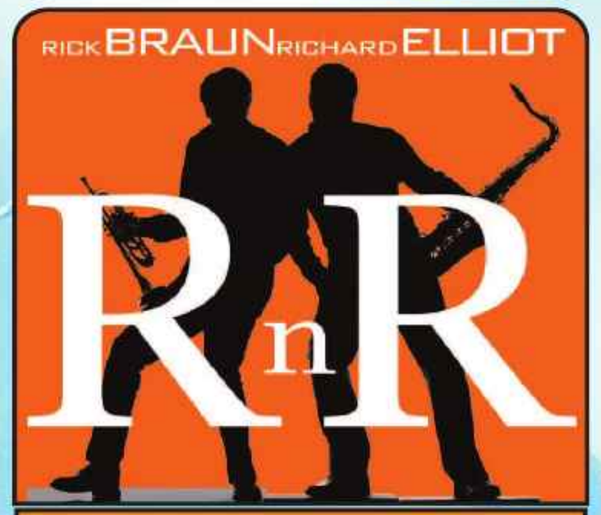
TICKETS ON SALE THIS FRIDAY AT NOON! SATURDAY OCT 11



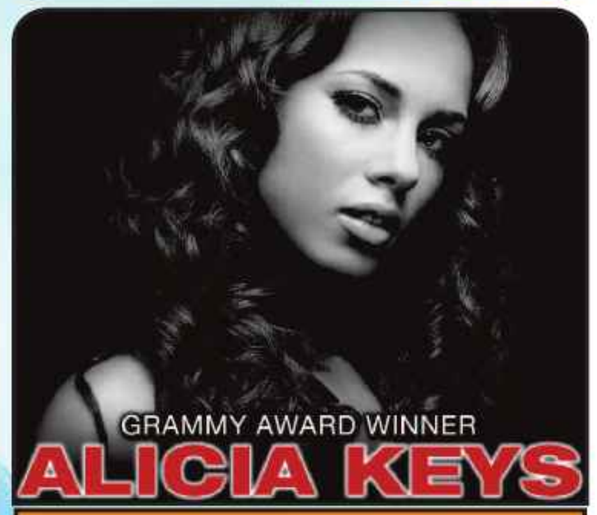
TICKETS ON SALE THIS FRIDAY AT NOON! SATURDAY NOV 15

GREAT SEATS STILL AVAILABLE! THIS FRIDAY! SEPT 5

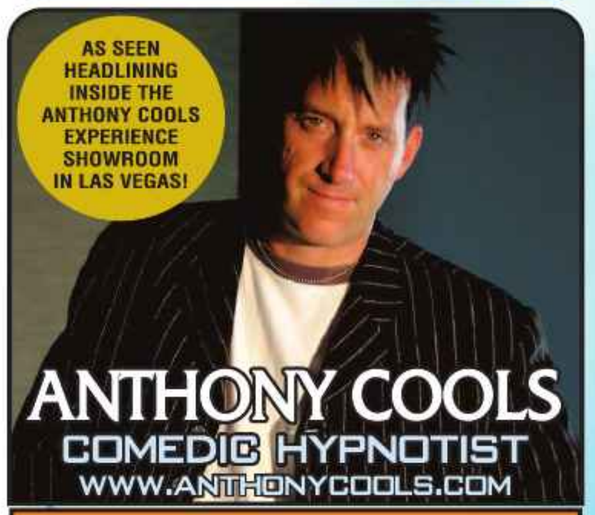
GREAT SEATS STILL AVAILABLE! THIS SATURDAY! SEPT 6



GREAT SEATS STILL AVAILABLE! THIS SUNDAY! SEPT 7

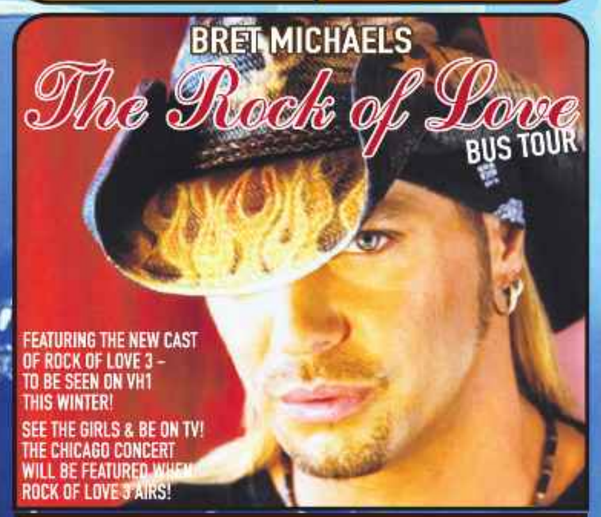


TICKETS ON SALE NOW! SATURDAY SEPT 13

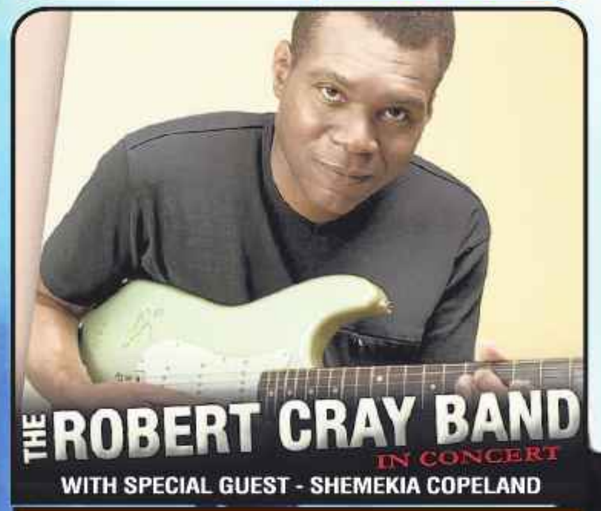


TICKETS ON SALE NOW! FRIDAY SEPT 19

TICKETS ON SALE NOW! SATURDAY SEPT 20



TICKETS ON SALE NOW! SUNDAY SEPT 21



TICKETS ON SALE NOW! SATURDAY SEPT 27

TICKETS ON SALE NOW! SUNDAY SEPT 28

Kenny Rogers - SATURDAY OCT 4 Tickets On Sale Now! | Rufus Wainwright - FRIDAY OCT 17 Tickets On Sale Now!

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AEG LIVE

Must be at least 21 for all shows. Must be 21 years or older to gamble.

On sale 10 a.m. Friday

Brazilian Girls, Friday, Oct. 3 ($23-$24.50, all ages) at House of Blues.

Eric Jerardi Band, Friday, Nov. 14, Saturday, Nov. 15 ($10-$12, 21+) at House of Blues Back Porch Stage.

Freddy Jones Band, Friday, Nov. 28 ($20-$23, 17+) at House of Blues.

On sale noon Friday

Blitzen Trapper, Horse Feathers, Sunday, Nov. 9 ($14, 18+) at Schubas.

Gemma Hayes, Monday, Sept. 29 ($10, 21+) at Schubas.

My Brightest Diamond, Clare & the Reasons, Friday, Nov. 7 ($13-$15, 21+) at Schubas.

On sale 5 p.m. Friday

Maxwell, Saturday, Oct. 18 ($49.50-$79.50, all ages) at Chicago Theatre.

Santogold

On sale 10 a.m. Saturday

David Byrne, Sunday, Oct. 26 ($37-$57, all ages) at Civic Opera House.

Conor Oberst and the Mystic Valley Band, Friday, Oct. 31, Saturday, Nov. 1 ($25, all ages) at Vic Theatre.

Matisyahu, Flobots, Chester French, Sunday, Oct. 19 ($29, 18+) at Riviera Theatre.

On sale noon Saturday

Coldcock Jones and the S*hawks, Andre Williams with the Goldstars, Midnight Shows, JC Brooks and the Uptown Sound,** Friday, Oct. 3 ($10, 21+) at Double Door.

The Fleshtones, The Hentchmen, Friday, Nov. 14 ($12, 21+) at Double Door.

Hawthorne Heights, Emery, The Color Fred, Tickle Me Pink, The Mile After, Tuesday, Nov. 18 ($19-$20, all ages) at Metro.

Jay Reatard, Cola Freaks, The Frankl Project, Sunday, Oct. 12 ($15, 21+) at Double Door.

The Redwalls, Wednesday, Nov. 26 ($14, 18+) at Metro.

On sale 10 a.m. Monday

Trans-Siberian Orchestra, Saturday, Jan. 3 ($38-$48, all ages) at Allstate Arena.

On sale now

The Alternate Routes, Saturday, Nov. 1 ($12, 21+) at House of Blues Back Porch Stage.

The Cheetah Girls 2008, Thursday, Dec. 4 ($35-$45, all ages) at United Center.

DJ Rampage, Rob Threezy, Maddjazz, Sunday, Sept. 14 (free, 21+) at Smart Bar.

Santogold, Mates of State, Low vs. Diamond, Sunday, Sept. 28 ($23-$25, 17+) at House of Blues.

The Sea and Cake, The Lonesome Organist, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Civic Orchestra of Chicago, Saturday, Sept. 27 (free, all ages) at Symphony Center.

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G - General audience ***PG*** *- Parental guidence suggested*
PG-13 *- Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13*
R - Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian
NC-17 *- No one 17 and under admitted*

600 N. MICHIGAN (AMC)
600 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago
(312) 255-9340
Show times change daily ♿

AMC Select - The best specialty films
- **Babylon A.D.** (PG–13) 3:15,5:45,8:15,10:40
- **Disaster Movie** (PG–13) 2:30,4:50,7:20,9:45
- **Death Race** (R) 1:30,4:40,7:40,10:10
- **The Longshots** (PG) 1:50,4:20,7:00,9:30
- **Mirrors** (R) 2:00,5:15,8:00,10:50
- **Tropic Thunder** (R) 2:15,5:00,7:50,10:30
- **Pineapple Exp** (R) 1:40,4:30,7:10,10:20
- **Step Brothers** (R) 11:00 P.M.
- **The Dark Knight** (PG–13) 3:00,4:00,6:30,7:30,10:00

LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK)
2828 North Clark St., Chicago
(773) 509-4949
- **Elegy** (R) 1:45,4:40,7:25,10:05
- **Midnight Kiss** (NR) 1:40,7:15
- **Frozen River** (R) 1:50,4:30,7:10,10:10
- **Man on Wire** (PG–13) 2:05,4:50,7:30,10:00
- **Bottle Shock** (PG–13) 1:30,4:00,7:20,9:50
- **American Teen** (PG–13) 4:10,10:15
- **Brideshead Rev** (PG–13) 2:00,5:00,8:00
- **Tell No One** (NR) 2:10,5:15,8:15

CITY NORTH 14 (KERASOTES)
2600 N. Western Ave.
(800) 326-3264 #1642
- **Babylon A.D.** (PG–13) ★ 1:50,4:20,6:50,9:30
- **College** (R) ★ 12:30,3:00,5:30,8:10,10:45
- **Disaster Movie** (PG–13) ★ 1:15,4:00,6:30,9:10
- **Traitor** (PG–13) ★ 1:30,4:30,7:10,10:00
- **The House Bunny** (PG–13) ★ 2:50,5:20,7:40,9:55
- **The Longshots** (PG) ★ 6:20,9:00
- **Death Race** (R) ★ (Closed caption) 1:40,4:40,7:30,8:00,10:10,10:40
- **Clone Wars** (PG) 12:45,3:30
- **Mirrors** (R) 1:00,3:50,6:40,9:40
- **Tropic Thunder** (R) 1:20,2:00,4:10,4:50,7:20,7:50,9:50,10:30
- **Pineapple Exp** (R) 2:30,5:10,7:45,10:15
- **Mummy-Tomb** (PG–13) 2:15,5:00
- **The Dark Knight** (PG–13) 12:20,2:40,3:40,6:05,7:00,9:20,10:20

DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)
4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago
(773) 784-0893
- **Traitor** (PG–13) ★ 5:00,7:20,9:40
- **Tropic Thunder** (R) ★ 5:10,7:30,9:50
- **Pineapple Exp** (R) 5:20,7:40,10:00
- **The Dark Knight** (PG–13) 7:00,10:00

FORD CITY 14 (AMC)
S. Cicero at 76th, Chicago
(773) 582-1839
Show times change daily

AMC Select - The best specialty films
- **Babylon A.D.** (PG–13) 1:00,3:15,5:30,7:50,10:05
- **College** (R) 1:15,3:30,5:45,7:55,10:10
- **Disaster Movie** (PG–13) 1:35,2:55,3:55,5:10,6:25,7:20,8:40,9:40
- **Traitor** (PG–13) 1:45,4:20,7:15,9:55
- **Death Race** (R) 1:20,3:45,4:30,6:15,7:25,8:45,9:50
- **The House Bunny** (PG–13) 1:10,3:25,5:40,8:00,10:15
- **The Longshots** (PG) 2:30,4:05,5:00,6:30,7:10,9:00,9:45
- **The Rocker** (PG–13) 1:05 P.M.
- **Clone Wars** (PG) 2:35,4:50
- **Mirrors** (R) 2:15,4:45,7:30,10:00
- **Tropic Thunder** (R) 2:00,4:35,7:00,9:20
- **Mummy-Tomb** (PG–13) 7:05,9:35
- **The Dark Knight** (PG–13) 3:05,6:20,9:30
- **WALL-E** (G) 1:25 P.M.

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER
164 State Street
312-846-2800
- **Two Lives** (NR) 6:15,8:00
- **Scarface** (PG) 6:00

LINCOLN VILLAGE THEATER
6341 N. McCormick at Devon Chicago
312-642-2403
- **The Dark Knight** (PG–13) 5:30,8:30
- **Pineapple Exp** (R) 5:10,7:30,10:15
- **Tropic Thunder** (R) 4:45,7:15,9:45
- **Death Race** (R) 5:00,7:30,10:00

LOGAN THEATRE
2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago
(773) 252-0628
- **Mummy-Tomb** (PG–13) 2:10,4:15,6:20,8:30
- **Mamma Mia!** (PG–13) 2:05,4:10,6:15,8:20
- **WALL-E** (G) 2:00,4:00,6:05,8:10
- **Hancock** (PG–13) 2:15,4:20,6:30,8:40

MUSIC BOX
3733 N. Southport, Chicago
(773) 871-6604
- **Grocer's Son** (NR) 5:40,7:40,9:40
- **Blade Run** (R) 5:00,7:20,9:45

PIPERS ALLEY (AMC)
1608 N. Wells, Chicago
(312) 642-7500
Show times change daily

AMC Select - The best specialty films
- AMC Select **Vicky Cristina** (PG–13) 3:30,5:45,8:00
- AMC Select **Hamlet 2** (R) 3:45,5:55,8:15
- AMC Select **I.O.U.S.A.** (PG) 2:30,7:30
- AMC Select **Sixty Six** (PG–13) 3:20,5:30
- AMC Select **Transsiberian** (R) 4:45 P.M.
- **Annie Hall** (PG) 7:45 P.M.

RIVER EAST 21 (AMC)
322 E. Illinois Street
847-765-7262
Show times change daily
- AMC Select **Vicky Cristina** (PG–13) 2:00,4:30,7:20,10:05
- **Babylon A.D.** (PG–13) 2:15,4:45,7:35,10:25
- **College** (R) 2:10,4:30,7:05,9:35
- **Traitor** (PG–13) 1:25,4:00,7:00,9:45
- AMC Select **Hamlet 2** (R) 3:20,5:40,8:20,10:40
- **Death Race** (R) 1:15,3:45,4:45,6:30,7:30,9:15,10:15
- **The House Bunny** (PG–13) 1:45,4:25,7:05,9:35
- **The Rocker** (PG–13) 1:00 P.M.
- **Fly Me 3-D** (G) ◆ 2:50,7:45
- **Clone Wars** (PG) 1:35,4:05
- **Tropic Thunder** (R) 1:15,2:15,4:15,5:15,7:15,8:15,10:15
- AMC Select **Elegy** (R) 1:10,4:00,6:50,9:30
- **Pineapple Exp** (R) 2:30,5:30,8:30
- **Sisterhood-2** (PG–13) 1:20,4:15,7:15,10:20
- **Mummy-Tomb** (PG–13) 6:45,9:30
- **Step Brothers** (R) 3:25,5:45,8:15,10:45
- **The Dark Knight** (PG–13) 1:30,2:30,3:30,5:00,6:00,7:00, 8:30,9:30,10:20
- **Mamma Mia!** (PG–13) 2:35,5:10,8:00,10:45 ;
- **Mamma Mia!** (PG–13) 1:35,4:35,7:25,10:20
- **Journey-Center** (PG) ◆ 5:15,10:10
- **WALL-E** (G) 2:25 P.M.

CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES)
7000 Carperter Rd., Skokie
(800) 326-3264 #2309
- **Babylon A.D.** (PG–13) ★ 2:15,5:10,7:45,10:10
- **College** (R) ★ 1:00,3:50,6:50,9:50
- **Disaster Movie** (PG–13) ★ 12:10,2:50,5:20,7:40,10:05
- **Mamma Mia** (NR) ★ 12:50,4:10,7:00,9:45
- **Hamlet 2** (R) ★ 2:10,4:40,7:15,10:20
- **Traitor** (PG–13) ★ 1:50,4:30,7:20,10:00
- **The House Bunny** (PG–13) ★ 1:40,4:00,6:40,9:30
- **The Longshots** (PG) ★ 2:20,4:50,8:00

(continued)

CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES) (continued)
- **Death Race** (R) ★ 1:10,2:00,3:40,4:45,6:30,7:30,9:40,10:35
- **The Rocker** (PG–13) 10:30
- **Clone Wars** (PG) 12:30,3:20,6:20
- **Vicky Cristina** (PG–13) 12:20,3:10,6:15,8:45
- **Mirrors** (R) 9:10
- **Tropic Thunder** (R) 12:00,12:40,2:40,3:30,5:15,6:10,7:50,9:00,10:40
- **Pineapple Exp** (R) 2:30,5:30,8:20
- **Sisterhood-2** (PG–13) 4:20,9:55
- **Mummy-Tomb** (PG–13) 1:20,7:10
- **The Dark Knight** (PG–13) 1:30,5:00,8:20
- **Journey-Center** (PG) 1:45,4:15,6:45,9:20

WEBSTER PLACE (KERASOTES)
1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1641
- **Mamma Mia** (NR) ★ 1:00,3:50,6:40,9:40
- **Death Race** (R) ★ 1:40,4:30,7:20,10:10
- **The Rocker** (PG–13) 9:30
- **Clone Wars** (PG) 1:15,4:00,6:50
- **Tropic Thunder** (R) 12:40,1:50,3:30,4:40,6:20,7:30,9:10,10:15
- **Pineapple Exp** (R) 2:00,4:50,7:40,10:30
- **Sisterhood-2** (PG–13) 1:30,4:20,7:10,10:00
- **Step Brothers** (R) 2:20,4:45,7:15,9:45
- **The Dark Knight** (PG–13) 12:20,3:10,3:40,6:30,7:00,9:50,10:20
- **Mamma Mia!** (PG–13) 2:10,5:00,7:50,10:40

KERASOTES SHOWPLACE 14 - GALEWOOD CROSSINGS
E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave.
(800) 326-3264 #1646
- **Babylon A.D.** (PG–13) 2:30,5:20,7:40,10:10
- **College** (R) 1:30,4:10,6:50,9:40
- **Disaster Movie** (PG–13) 1:50,4:20,7:00,9:30
- **Hamlet 2** (R) 12:40,3:30,6:40,9:20
- **Traitor** (PG–13) 1:40,4:30,7:10,10:15
- **The House Bunny** (PG–13) 2:20,5:00,7:30,10:20
- **The Longshots** (PG) 1:10,3:50,4:50,6:15,7:15,8:50,10:00
- **Death Race** (R) 12:50,3:40,6:20,9:00
- **The Rocker** (PG–13) 2:00
- **Mirrors** (R) 12:30,3:20,6:10,9:10
- **Tropic Thunder** (R) 1:20,4:40,7:20,10:30
- **Pineapple Exp** (R) 2:10,5:10,7:50,10:40
- **Mummy-Tomb** (PG–13) 1:00,4:00,6:45,9:55
- **The Dark Knight** (PG–13) 3:10,6:30,9:50

KERASOTES CICERO SHOWPLACE 14
4779 W. Cermak
(800) 326-3264 #1644
- **Babylon A.D.** (PG–13) ★ 1:00,3:50,6:40,9:30
- **College** (R) ★ 2:10,4:40,7:10,9:40

(continued)

KERASOTES CICERO SHOWPLACE 14 (continued)
- **Disaster Movie** (PG–13) ★ 2:00,4:30,6:50,9:10
- **Traitor** (PG–13) ★ 2:00,4:45,7:40,10:20
- **The House Bunny** (PG–13) ★ 2:15,4:50,7:30,10:10
- **The Longshots** (PG) ★ 1:40,4:10,7:00,9:50
- **Death Race** (R) ★ 12:50,3:40,6:20,9:00
- **The Rocker** (PG–13) 10:15
- **Clone Wars** (PG) 2:30,5:10,7:45
- **Mirrors** (R) 1:20,4:15,7:15,10:00
- **Tropic Thunder** (R) 1:10,4:00,6:45,9:20
- **Pineapple Exp** (R) 2:20,5:00,7:50,10:40
- **Mummy-Tomb** (PG–13) 12:40,3:20,6:10,8:50
- **Step Brothers** (R) 1:30,4:20,7:20,10:30
- **The Dark Knight** (PG–13) 3:10,6:30,9:45

OAK PARK

LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)
1022 Lake Street
630-444-FILM #560
- **Babylon A.D.** (PG–13) 12:45,2:50,4:55,7:00,9:05
- **Hamlet 2** (R) 12:50,3:00,5:10,7:20,9:30
- **Vicky Cristina** (PG–13) 1:05,3:15,5:25,7:35,9:45
- **Clone Wars** (PG) 12:00,2:15,4:30
- **Fly Me 3-D** (G) 12:30,2:30,4:30,6:30,8:30
- **Tropic Thunder** (R) 12:10,2:35,5:00,7:25,9:50
- **The Dark Knight** (PG–13) 12:15,3:20,6:30,9:40
- **Mamma Mia!** (PG–13) 6:45,9:10

EVANSTON

CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)
1715 MAPLE AVE.
(847)492-0123 ♿
- **Babylon A.D.** (PG–13) ★ 12:15,2:40,5:15,7:40,10:05
- **College** (R) ★ 12:45,3:10,5:35,8:00,10:25
- **Disaster Movie** (PG–13) ★ 12:30,2:50,5:05,7:30,9:50
- **Death Race** (R) ★ 12:25,2:55,5:25,7:55,10:30
- **Elegy** (R) ★ 11:30,2:10,4:55,7:40,10:20
- **Frozen River** (R) 12:20,2:50,5:20,7:50,10:15
- **Hamlet 2** (R) ★ 11:55,2:20,4:45,7:15,9:40
- **Mamma Mia!** (PG–13) 4:05
- **Pineapple Exp** (R) 11:40,2:25,5:10,7:45,10:20
- **Sisterhood-2** (PG–13) 1:10,4:20
- **Clone Wars** (PG) 7:20,10:05
- **The Dark Knight**(PG–13) 11:25,12:40,2:45,6:10,8:10,9:35
- **The House Bunny** (PG–13) ★ 11:45,2:30,5:00,7:30,10:00
- **The Longshots** (PG) ★ 11:30,5:00,10:35
- **The Rocker** (PG–13) 2:30,7:35
- **Traitor** (PG–13) ★ 12:50,4:00,7:20,10:00
- **Transsiberian** (R) 11:25,2:00,4:35,7:10,9:50
- **Tropic Thunder** (R) 11:50,1:45,2:35,4:25,5:20,7:05,7:50,9:45,10:25
- **Vicky Cristina** (PG–13) 11:55,2:20,4:45,7:10,9:40

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Metromix's top shows

ANDREW BIRD, OCCIDENTAL BROTHERS DANCE BAND INTERNATIONAL
Arrive EARLY. Good luck snagging even a fraction of grass.
6:30 p.m. Free. Jay Pritzker Pavilion, Millennium Park, 201 E. Randolph St. 312-742-1168.

XIU XIU
Like Penelope Cruz in "Vicky Cristina Barcelona": beautiful, dangerous and periodically crazy. With Prurient, Common Eider, King Eider.
8 p.m. $15. Bottom Lounge, 1375 W. Lake St. 312-666-6775.

KRONOS QUARTET, GLENN KOTCHE
Wilco drummer debuts a piece he wrote for the veteran string section.
8 p.m. $10-$40. Ravinia Festival, 200-231 Ravinia Park Rd., Highland Park. 847-266-5100.

SHALLOBOI
Local ambient pop offers decent opportunity to space out. With A Tundra, Ceiling Stars, Umbra and the Vulcan Siege.
9 p.m. $7. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

Andrew Bird

4 WOMEN ONLY
9 p.m. $10 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Devon, 1401 W. Devon Ave. 773-465-9801.

ALFONSO PONTICELLI AND SWING GITAN
9 p.m. $25-$30. The Green Mill, 4802 N. Broadway. 773-878-5552.

ARI BROWN QUARTET
5 p.m. $5. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.

BILL PORTER ORCHESTRA
9:30 p.m. $10. Green Dolphin Street, 2200 N. Ashland Ave. 773-395-0066.

CHAD WILLETS
5 p.m. Free. The Martini Bar, 163 E. Walton Pl. 312-751-8100.

CHRISSY GARDNER
8 p.m. Free. Davenport's (in the piano bar), 1383 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-278-1830.

FRANK CATALANO SEXTET
2 a.m. Free. The Green Mill, 4802 N. Broadway. 773-878-5552.

GBH, WHOLE WHEAT BREAD, KRUM BUMS
9 p.m. $17-$20. Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408.

THE GOOD FOOT
9 p.m. Free. Wells on Wells, 1617 N. Wells St. 312-944-1617.

HAL KETCHUM
8 p.m. $25. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

HUNT/BAKER/WARD/BANKHEAD, STEVE HUNT/MICHAEL ZERANG

PERCUSSION DUO
9:30 p.m. $6. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

IRA SULLIVAN, BENNY GOLSON
8 and 10 p.m. Cover varies. Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Ct. 312-360-0234.

J.W. WILLIAMS BLUES
Band with Patricia Scott
9 p.m. $8. Blue Chicago at Ohio, 536 N. Clark St. 312-661-0100.

JIGSAW
9 p.m. Free. Quenchers Saloon, 2401 N. Western Ave. 773-276-9730.

JIMMY BURNS, ANDRE TAYLOR AND THE BLUES ALLEY CATS
9:30 p.m. $12. Kingston Mines, 2548 N. Halsted St. 773-477-4646.

JUNE YVON AND

JOANNE GARRETT
8:30 p.m. Cover varies. The Velvet Lounge, 67 E. Cermak Rd. 312-791-9050.

KENNY PHELPS
8 p.m. Free. Redhead Piano Bar, 16 W. Ontario St. 312-640-1000.

LA PENA: LA GRAN BANDA, PUNTO CLAVE, EL PUEBLO
8:30 p.m. $5 suggested donation, reservations recommended.
Old Town School of Folk Music, 4544 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-728-6000.

MATT ULERYS LOOM
9 p.m. Free. Pops for Champagne, 601 N. State St. 312-266-7677.

MICKI CROISANT AND THE GOOD NAME BAND
9 p.m. Free. Wild Rover, 6001 N. Paulina Ave. 773-743-2400.

MIKE SMITH QUARTET
9 p.m. $10. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.

NELLIE TRAVIS
9:30 p.m. $10. Buddy Guy's Legends, 754 S. Wabash Ave. 312-427-0333.

PARENTHETICALS, THE CELL PHONES
9 p.m. $7. Ronny's, 2101 N. California Ave.
mpshows.com

PETER MILETIC
11:45 p.m. Free. Redhead Piano Bar, 16 W. Ontario St. 312-640-1000.

REGGIE AND THE FULL EFFECT, LEATHERMOUTH, WARSHIP
6 p.m. $12-$15. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

ROOT SHOOT

LEAF, SECONDARY MODERN, LEGS LIKE STRAW
9 p.m. Free. Red Line Tap, 7006 N. Glenwood Ave. 773-274-5463.

SHIRLEY KING
9 p.m. Free. The Joynt, 650 N. Dearborn St. 312-573-2233.

STANG STOMPER, THE DYES
9 p.m. $8. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave.
housecallent.com

SWEETWATER MELTDOWN
9 p.m. Free. Abbey Pub (in the pub), 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408.

TRIBUTOSAURUS
7:30 p.m. $15. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

ZEBRAHEAD
6 p.m. $15. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

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legal notices

LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
ICICI Bank Limited has filed an application with the Federal Reserve to establish a Representative Office in Chicago, Illinois. Any person may submit written comments and data on the application to Mr. G.V.S Ramesh, Country Head, ICICI Bank Limited, New York Branch at the address mentioned above within 30 days following the date of this Notice.

The following resolution was unanimously approved by the Board of Directors of Amalgamated Bank of Chicago on August 18, 2008:

WHEREAS, Amalgamated Bank of Chicago ("Amalgamated") located at One West Monroe Street, Chicago, Illinois 60603 has a branch bank located at 28600 Bella Vista Parkway, Warrenville, Illinois 60555 (the "Amalgamated Branch");

WHEREAS, the current hours for the Amalgamated Branch are as follows:

Lobby Hours:
Monday-Friday
8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday
8:30 am - 1:00 pm

Drive-up Window:
Monday-Friday
7:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday7:00 am - 2:00 pm;

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the hours for the Amalgamated Branch shall be amended by closing the Amalgamated Branch on Saturdays and amending the weekly operating hours;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Promissory Note and Bank Holiday Act of Illinois, a copy of this resolution shall be filed with the Recorder of Cook County and DuPage County and published once each week for three successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that effective October 1, 2008, the operating hours for the Amalgamated Branch shall be as follows:

Lobby Hours:
Monday-Friday
8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday Closed

Drive-up Window:
Monday-Friday
8:00 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday Closed

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Amalgamated hereby authorizes the Executive Vice President and General Counsel of Amalgamated to file a copy of this resolution with the Recorder of Cook County, Illinois and DuPage County, Illinois and publish this resolution once each week for three successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation.

FURTHER RESOLVED, the hours described above shall remain in full force and effect until a copy of the later resolution of the Board of Amalgamated terminating or altering the hours above shall be filed and published in the same manner as described herein.

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NOTICE
INVITATION TO BID
TO
METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO

Sealed proposals, endorsed as below, will be deposited in the sealed bid depository located in the lobby of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Administration Building, 100 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611, from the date of the Invitation to Bid, up to 11:00 A.M. on the bid opening date, and will be opened publicly by the Purchasing Agent or her designee at 11:00 A.M. on the stated bid opening date below for:

CONTRACT 08-408-11
JANITORIAL SERVICES FOR THE MAIN OFFICE BUILDING COMPLEX FOR A 36MONTH PERIOD

Estimated Cost: $1,626,600.00 Bid Deposit: $81,300.00

Mandatory Walk Through: Thursday, September 11, 2008
02:00 pm Chicago Time
Main Office Building
Board Room
100 E Erie
Chicago, Illinois

Mandatory Technical PreBid Conference: Thursday, September 11, 2008
3:00 pm Chicago Time
Main Office Building
Board Room
100 E Erie
Chicago, Illinois

Bid Opening: September 23, 2008

CONTRACT 08-418-12
FURNISH AND DELIVER FIFTYTWO (52) MULTIFUNCTIONAL PHOTOCOPIER DEVICES AND A FIVEYEAR REPAIR SERVICE, SUPPLIES AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT AT VARIOUS DISTRICT LOCATIONS (RE-BID)

Estimated Cost: $592,000.00 Bid Deposit: $29,600.00
Bid Opening: September 16, 2008

CONTRACT 08-604-12
FURNISHING AND DELIVERING PLUMBING MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES TO VARIOUS LOCATIONS (REBID)

Estimated Cost: $208,500.00 Bid Deposit: $10,400.00
Bid Opening: September 23, 2008

CONTRACT 08-682-11
REPAIR OF EXPANSION JOINTS AND EPOXY INJECTION AT VARIOUS SERVICE AREAS

Estimated Cost: $122,800.00 Bid Deposit: $6,100.00
Bid Opening: September 23, 2008
Compliance with the MultiProject Labor Agreement is required on this contract.

****

The above is an abbreviated version of the Notice Invitation to Bid. For a full version which includes a brief description of the project and/or service can be found at our website at http://mwrd.orgclick on Contract Announcements; then Date of the Advertisement.

Specifications, proposal forms and plans may be obtained from the Purchasing Department, Room 508, 100 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611, Monday Friday, between 8:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. Documents, unless stated above to the contrary, will be mailed in response to a fax request (#312/751-3042). No fee is required for the contract documents unless stated above. The District assumes no responsibility for documents sent through the mail.

Proposals must be submitted on proposal forms. Proposal forms are to be placed in the special envelope furnished by the District and shall conform to the terms and conditions of the Bidding Requirements attached thereto. Bidders are to include with their proposal signed copies of any addenda, or acknowledge receipt of any addenda, if the District issued any addenda to this contract. Failure to do so may be cause for the rejection of any bid.

Each proposal must be accompanied by a bid deposit in the form of cash (U.S. currency only), cashier's check, certified check or bid bond, as stated in the Bidding Requirements and Instructions to Bidders contained in the contract document. The bid bond must be underwritten by a surety licensed to do business in the State of Illinois, listed in the latest copy of the Federal Register and approved by the Purchasing Agent.

If after receipt of the Contract Documents there are any questions regarding procedural details, please contact the Purchasing Department at (312) 751-6643.

All Contracts for the Construction of Public Works are subject to the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act (820 ILCS 130/112), where it is stated in the Invitation to Bid Page.

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals if deemed in the public's best interest.

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

By Darlene A. LoCascio
Purchasing Agent

Chicago, Illinois
September 3, 2008

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Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

MWRDGC to Auction its Surplus Online

Effective on or about August 01, 2008, The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District will begin auctioning off surplus property using the State of Illinois' auction website known as iBid. (www.ibid.illinois.gov)

A wide variety of items will be available, including generators, motors, pumps, phones, electronics, lighting, plumbing & HVAC supplies, consumables, and hundreds of other items. Many items are only slightly used, or in good condition.

Each item or lot has its own auction and time frame. To bid, participants will need a credit card and a driver's license. Pertinent information is found on the iBid website. (www.ibid.illinois.gov)

DISCLAIMER & ABSENCE OF WARRANTIES:

The property is being sold on an "AS IS" basis, and no warranty or representation either expressed or implied, concerning this property is made by the Seller or the Auction Company. Each prospective bidder is responsible for conducting his or her own independent investigations, inquiries, and due diligence concerning the property. The information contained herein is subject to verification by all parties relying on it. ALL SALES ARE FINAL.

PAYMENT & SHIPPING:
The MWRDGC will presently accept credit cards only. Items can either be picked up in person, or via a shipper, after verification of payment in full. The buyer assumes full freight charges.

For more information, check the header, "Doing Business with the District" on the District's website: **http://www.mwrd.org/**, click through to, "Surplus Materials on Auction."

PUBLICATION NOTICE
For a New Branch:

Notification is given that JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., 1111 Polaris Parkway, Columbus, Ohio 43271 has filed an application with the Comptroller of the Currency on or about 9/3/2008, as specified in 12 CFR 5 for permission to establish a domestic branch at 5200 Dempster Street, Cook County, Skokie, IL, 60077-1803. Any person wishing to comment on this application may file comments in writing with the Licensing Manager, Large Banks Licensing Operations, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 250 E Street, SW, Mail Stop 7-13, Washington, D.C. 20219 within 30 days of the date of this publication.

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In some parts of England, rum is used to wash a baby's head for good luck.

METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago will hold an examination for the following classification:

Electrical Instrument and Testing Mechanic Foreman (Promotional)
Electrical Instrument and Testing Mechanic Leadman (Promotional)
Electrical Mechanic Foreman (Promotional)
Electrical Mechanic Sub-Foreman (Promotional)
Machinist Foreman (Promotional)
Machinist Leadman (Promotional)
Pipefitter Foreman (Promotional)
Pipefitter Leadman (Promotional)

Applications and examination information are available on our website at www.mwrd.org.
Please submit application to Personnel Public Service Office
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
100 East Erie Street,
First Floor
Chicago, IL 60611

To have an application mailed, email us at jobs@mwrd.org or call 312-751-5100 for further information.

Emailed or faxed applications will not be accepted. Resumes will not be accepted in place of application forms. Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago will hold an examination for the following classification:

Affirmative Action Program Administrator (Original and Promotional)

Applications and examination information are available on our website at www.mwrd.org.
Please submit application to

Personnel Public Service Office
Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
100 East Erie Street, First Floor
Chicago, IL 60611

To have an application mailed, email us at jobs@mwrd.org or call 312-751-5100 for further information.

Emailed or faxed applications will not be accepted. Resumes will not be accepted in place of application forms. Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D

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Dirty secrets in the office

Germs are lurking all over the workplace—some tips to avoid them

Associated Press

The average office has hundreds of times more bacteria than a toilet seat. The "enter" button on your office fax machine is probably a rank stew of vile bacteria. And here's a controversial bit—women spread more germs in the workplace than men. Those are some of the findings of America's leading expert on work and home hygiene, Charles Gerba, a professor of microbiology at the University of Arizona.

Before women take offense, the higher germ concentration is proof that women have a healthier diet than men. Women, Gerba found, tend to store apples, bananas and other biodegradable, healthy food at their desk while men go for less nutritious and therefore less germ-ridden junk food, such as gum or potato chips.

Over the past two years, Gerba and his team have seen an improvement in overall office hygiene as desk wipes and hand cleaners become more popular.

With air conditioning units and ventilation shafts a good breeding ground for bacteria in these still humid weeks, there are a number of points experts want you to be aware of before you high-five a colleague at the office meeting.

Clean out that keyboard

Shake an average office keyboard and you are likely to find what microbiology professor Charles Gerba calls "the bagel shower"—bread particles and other food bites lodged between the keys.

Most office cleaning companies do not touch computers or keyboards because they don't want to risk causing any damage. Hygiene is left to the employee, and many don't bother.

Gerba recommends an alcohol-based sanitizer for cleaning the keyboard. Simply blowing compressed air over it is not going to remove bacteria clinging to the surface, he warned.

Perhaps the best combination is that used by Brendan Cahalan, a risk manager with Standard Motor Products in Long Island City in New York. He uses an alcohol-based cleaner on his computer, as well as compressed air to clean out any debris between the keys.

Protect your face

Office workers touch their hands to their faces an average of 18 times an hour, according to Elizabeth Scott, a professor at the Simmons Center for Hygiene and Health in Boston. When we touch our faces, we bring all the collected gunk of our keyboard, desktop or BlackBerry right to their respiratory and digestive system every three and a half minutes—bacteria and viruses couldn't ask for a better transportation system.

Scott recommends washing hands regularly and, yes, using hand sanitizer, especially after shaking hands with a colleague suspected of having a cold or another illness. "As soon as I see someone come into my office that I think is sick, I immediately grab the sanitizer. You can shake hands at business meetings and still protect yourself," she said.

Gerba, in contrast, politely declines a handshake if someone has a cold. "You could infect the whole office. Any reasonable person will understand that," he said.

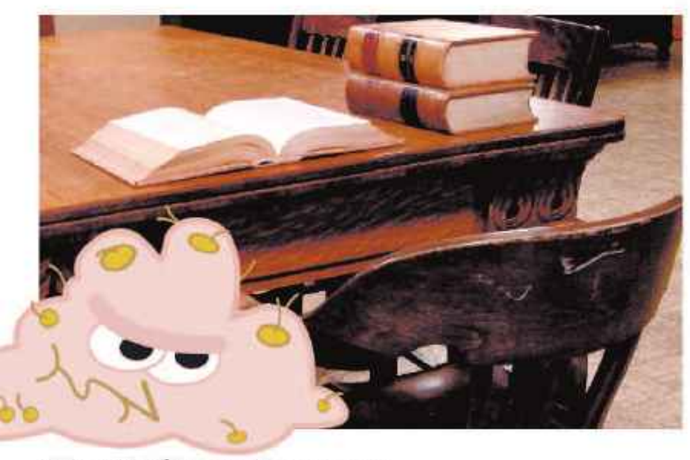
REDEYE ILLUSTRATIONS

Beware thy neighbor's cubicle

Is your cubicle a pristine display cabinet while your neighbor's is a mounting pile of paper, uneaten food and sports socks? Those bacteria will multiply and crawl over that cubicle wall.

Gerba's research found that two adjacent offices at one company had the biggest yeast contamination of dozens of offices sampled. The contamination simply spread from one to the other.

"It might be of interest to take note of your neighbor's hygiene practices, so sharing of bacteria and yeast doesn't occur," he wrote in his report.



Work like a lawyer

Gerba's study of offices in New York, San Francisco and Tucson, Ariz., found that teachers' offices had by far the highest levels of germs per square inch, nearly three times as much as bankers, the next most contaminated professionals. Lawyers had the least infection.

While lawyers have the advantage of having little contact with children, they are also good at sticking to a regimen, Gerba said.

One example is Colleen Kerwick, an aviation litigation attorney with the firm in Manhattan. She wraps up food remains and dumps them immediately. She was encouraged to do so after seeing a mouse's head peer out of a waste basket at a previous employer's office.

"I do not use hand sanitizers or antibiotics as I believe they weaken your immune system. However, I'm much more careful about office hygiene since my mouse sighting," she said.

Wash often

Washing you hands for 20 seconds under soap and running water is far better than a quick squirt of hand sanitizer at your desk, says Dean Cliver, a professor of food safety at the University of California.

While many hand sanitizers boast of anti-microbial properties, a scrub with ordinary soap is far better, Cliver said. Water penetrates much deeper, helping to remove food debris and other particles that hand sanitizer just doesn't reach.

Dispose of unwanted food

Don't let food accumulate in your desk drawer, where it will provide a giant breeding ground for bacteria. According to Gerba, women bring healthier food to their desktops, such as fruit, which provides a boon for nutrient-hungry bacteria.

Gerba recommends the rapid disposal of any unwanted food; hassled employees often forget about food lodged at the back of desk drawers.

"The office refrigerator is a total mess as well," he said. "People do not keep to the disposal rules, and the refrigerator is taking in food from many, many different households."

Scott comes to women's defense on the food issue—women often have cleaner desks than men, so they will not allow the bacteria to build, she said.

Think twice before using the fax machine

Gerba's research in dozens of offices has found that the "enter" and "send" buttons on fax machines carry some of the highest concentrations of harmful microbes. In contrast, lesser-used keys have significantly less contamination.

Other commonly used surfaces with high contamination levels include the "copy" button on the office copier, and the handles of restroom doors.

And before you ask to work from home, consider that Gerba's research has found much higher levels of contamination in home offices. Home workers are less likely to separate their private lives, he said.

"Children can be a major source of contamination and home workers are much more likely to do things they would never dare attempt in a corporate office, such as put their feet on the desk," Gerba said.

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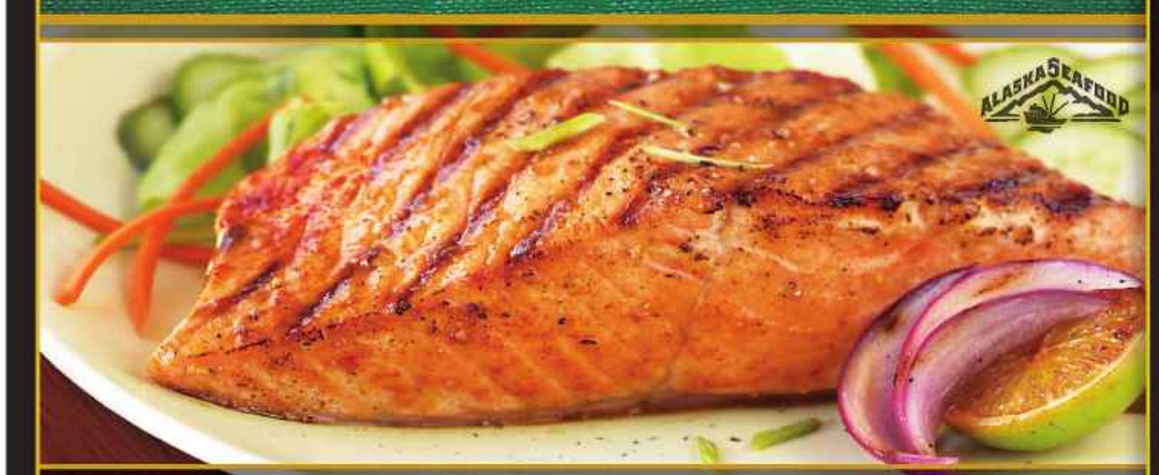

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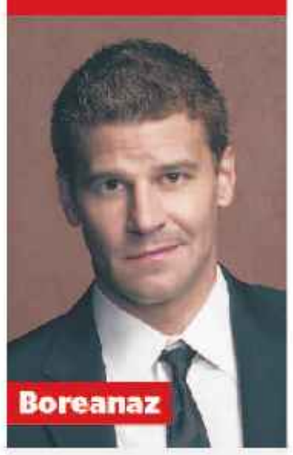

Boreanaz

HE SAID

"It was a bit chaotic and crazy.... When I would leave my hotel or go out for a run it was a bit nuts. Other than that, it was OK."

DAVID BOREANAZ
to reporters Tuesday, talking about filming the season premiere of "Bones" in London. The show returns at 7 p.m. Wednesday on Fox.

ONLINE

Read more about David Boreanaz at **redeyechicago.com/showpatrol**

Charlie Hunnam as Jackson 'Jax' Teller

'Sons of Anarchy' a roaring success

Vic Mackey, Tommy Gavin, Christian Troy, meet Jackson "Jax" Teller.

With the lead character in its new "Sons of Anarchy," FX adds to its roster of fascinating anti-heroes who do good, but create plenty of chaos in the process.

Played by British actor Charlie Hunnam, Jax is the tough vice president of the Sons of Anarchy Motorcycle Club Redwood Original (SAMCRO for short), a California gang co-founded by his father but now run by his stepfather, Clay Morrow (Ron Perlman).

As the series begins at 9 p.m. Wednesday, Jax has to deal with his junkie ex-wife (Drea de Matteo) who almost overdoses while giving birth to their child.

And that's the least of his worries.

Jax, who although prone to violence himself, is doubting the club's gun-running and other lawless acts. After he finds a manuscript written by his dead dad called "How the Sons of Anarchy Lost Their Way," Jax works hard to stay one step ahead of the ruthless Clay when it comes to dealing with the club's rivals.

He comes up with creative, non-violent means to further the club's reach, but also is sucked into his stepdad's dark dealings, including murder.

One of the toughest characters on the show, surprisingly, doesn't even hop on a Harley. Jax's mom, Gemma Teller-Morrow (a powerhouse Katey Sagal), has no doubts about her husband Clay, the club's activities or the mother of her new grandson. She does something so shocking in the premiere, it's hard to believe she can love anyone including her son.

Jax thinks the world of his mother and has no idea how cruel she can be, which makes him a sort of modern-day Hamlet in this violent but also darkly funny, entertaining series.

WEDNESDAY PREMIERES

McKey

ShaRaun

America's Next Top Model
7 p.m. CW
The reality show returns with two Chicago-area contestants (above), a transgender model and a silly sci-fi theme. Yes, they're calling our girl Tyra-Bot.

Ghost Hunters
8 p.m. Sci Fi
The skeptics kick off another season of ghost-busting.

Top Design
9 p.m. Bravo
Bravo's remodel of the decorator contest finds India Hicks hosting and Todd Oldham as a Tim Gunn-like mentor.

Destination Truth
9 p.m. Sci Fi
Josh Gates hunts a man-eating beast in Australia.

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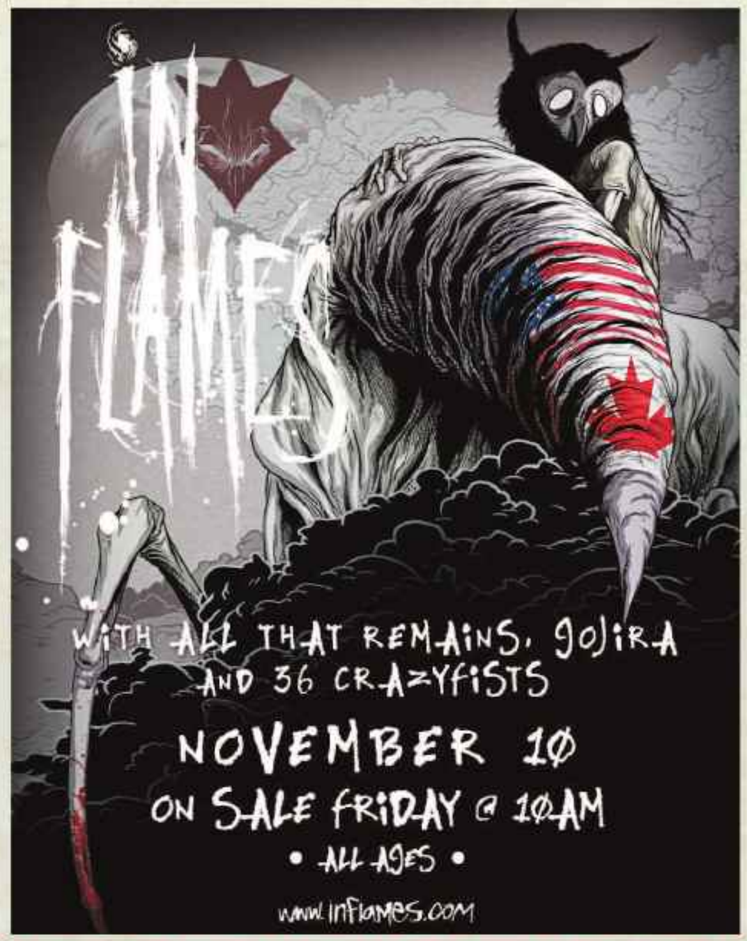

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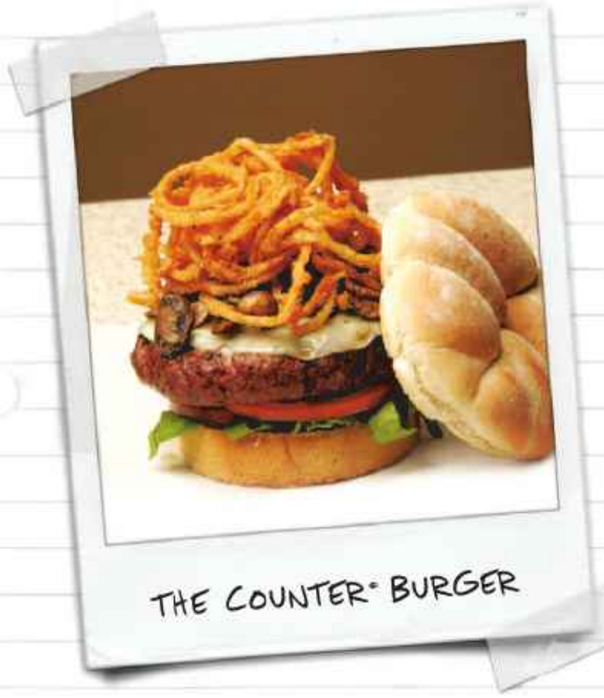

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What the 'frak'?

Katee Sackhoff from 'Galactica'
SCI FI CHANNEL

Faux curse word seeps into popular vocabulary

Associated Press

Lee Goldberg thinks Glen A. Larson is a genius.

Larson first used the faux curse word "frak" in the original "Battlestar Galactica." The word was mostly overlooked back in the '70s series but has been working its way into popular vocabulary since Sci Fi's modern update of the show began.

"All joking aside, say what you will about what you might call the lowbrow nature of many of his shows, he did something truly amazing and subversive," said Goldberg, a TV writer and novelist whose credits include "Monk" and "Diagnosis Murder."

The word is showing up everywhere—on T-shirts, in sitcoms, best-selling novels and regular conversation.

"I have to start by saying that I'm drinking coffee out of a mug that says 'frak off' on the side of it, so much has it seeped into my life," "Galactica" star Jamie Bamber said.

The word is insinuating its way into popular vocabulary for a simple reason: You can't get in trouble for saying it. It's a made-up word.

Co-executive producer and writer Michael Angeli said using the word in scripts is satisfying for anyone who's been censored over the years.

"It's a great way to do something naughty and get away with it," Angeli said. "... A lot of our characters are soldiers. That whole sort of view and that subculture, that's how they speak. They're rough and tumble, and they're bawdy and they swear."

It's 'frakking' everywhere

The made-up curse word "frak" has jumped from "Battlestar Galactica" into pop culture. Here are some places you may have heard it:

» TV shows such as "The Office," "Gossip Girl," "Robot Chicken," "The O.C.," "Veronica Mars," "Batman Beyond" and "Scrubs"
» The cartoon character Dilbert muttered "frack"—the original spelling—in a strip.
» Marvel Comics' comic book "World War Hulk: Prologue"
» Best-selling novelist Robert Crais slipped it into his latest Elvis Cole mystery, "Chasing Darkness."
» It's on T-shirts, coffee cups and other products, like this messenger bag (right), $23.99 at **burntees.com**. AP, REDEYE

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Literary life after 'Harry'

'Potter' publisher looks to promote next big thing

Associated Press

On Tuesday, the U.S. publisher of "Harry Potter" will premiere a highly ambitious series with a mystery ending for readers and a couple of puzzlers for the industry: How big is the market for a multimedia story—and can a phenomenon be conceived by a publisher rather than created by the public?

"The 39 Clues" is a planned 10-volume set about young Amy and Dan Cahill and their worldwide search for the secret to their family's power. The first book, "The Maze of Bones," is written by Rick Riordan of "The Lightning Thief" fame and has an announced first printing of 500,000. Steven Spielberg already has acquired film rights to the series.

Each book will have a different writer, including such best-sellers as Gordon Korman and Jude Watson. Backed by a multimillion-dollar marketing campaign, "The 39 Clues" also features game cards, a contest with a $10,000 first prize and a sophisticated Web site that includes games, blogs, videos and thousands of pages of background.

"The word we always used was 'groundbreaking,'" said Scholastic executive editorial director David Levithan. "We wanted to be the first out there to introduce this kind of multidimensional thing."

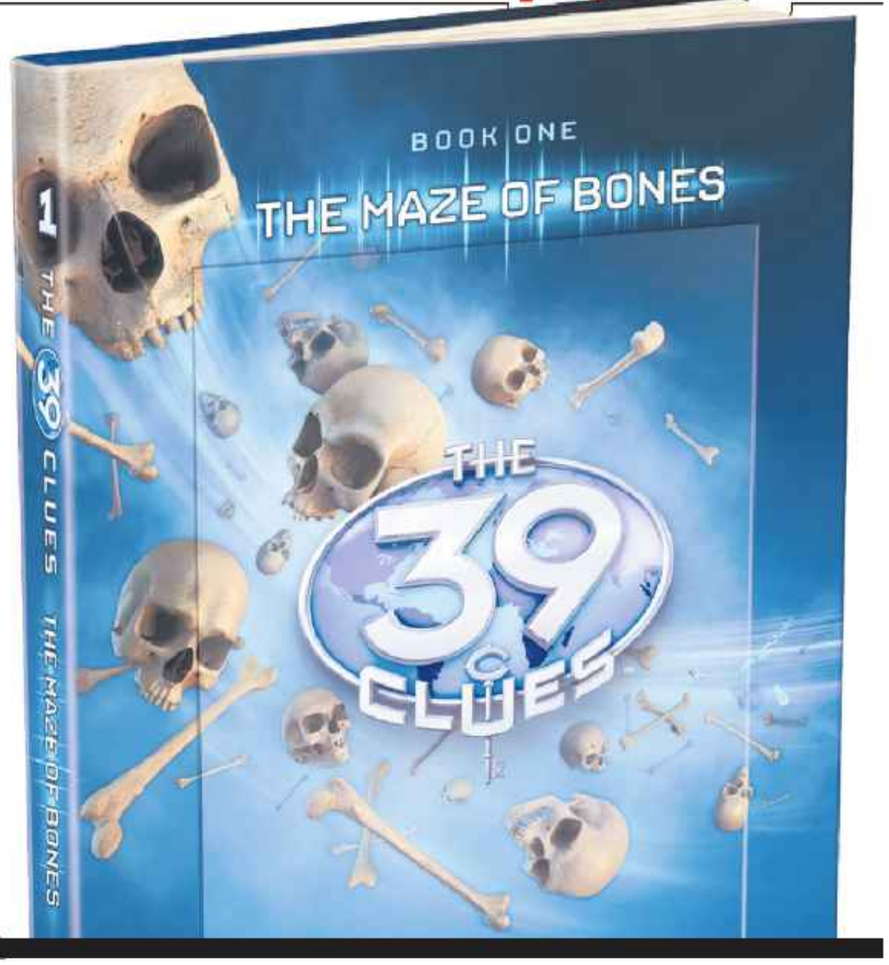
A Scholastic team, led by Levithan, thought of the series about three years ago, working from the idea of a treasure hunt. The essential outline, including the ending, was set by the publisher. Authors were asked to fill in the details, taking a thread, as Levithan describes it, and turning it into a blanket.

"It's a different kind of challenge," Levithan said. "To use a movie analogy, each director of the 'Harry Potter' films brings their own voice and their own vision to what J.K. Rowling has done. You still feel there's a consistency there, and part of the fun is seeing what they add to it."

Scholastic quickly decided that "The 39 Clues" would make an ideal multiplatform event. Readers might check out the Web site, just as kids who love online games might then turn to the books. A recent study by the American Library Association revealed that many librarians already use games to attract young people and, ideally, get them interested in books.

Becky Anderson, co-owner of the Anderson Bookstores in suburban Chicago, says she is a little wary of the project's ambitions: "It was presented to us as the thing that's going to replace 'Harry Potter.'" Still, she was "blown away" by "The 39 Clues."

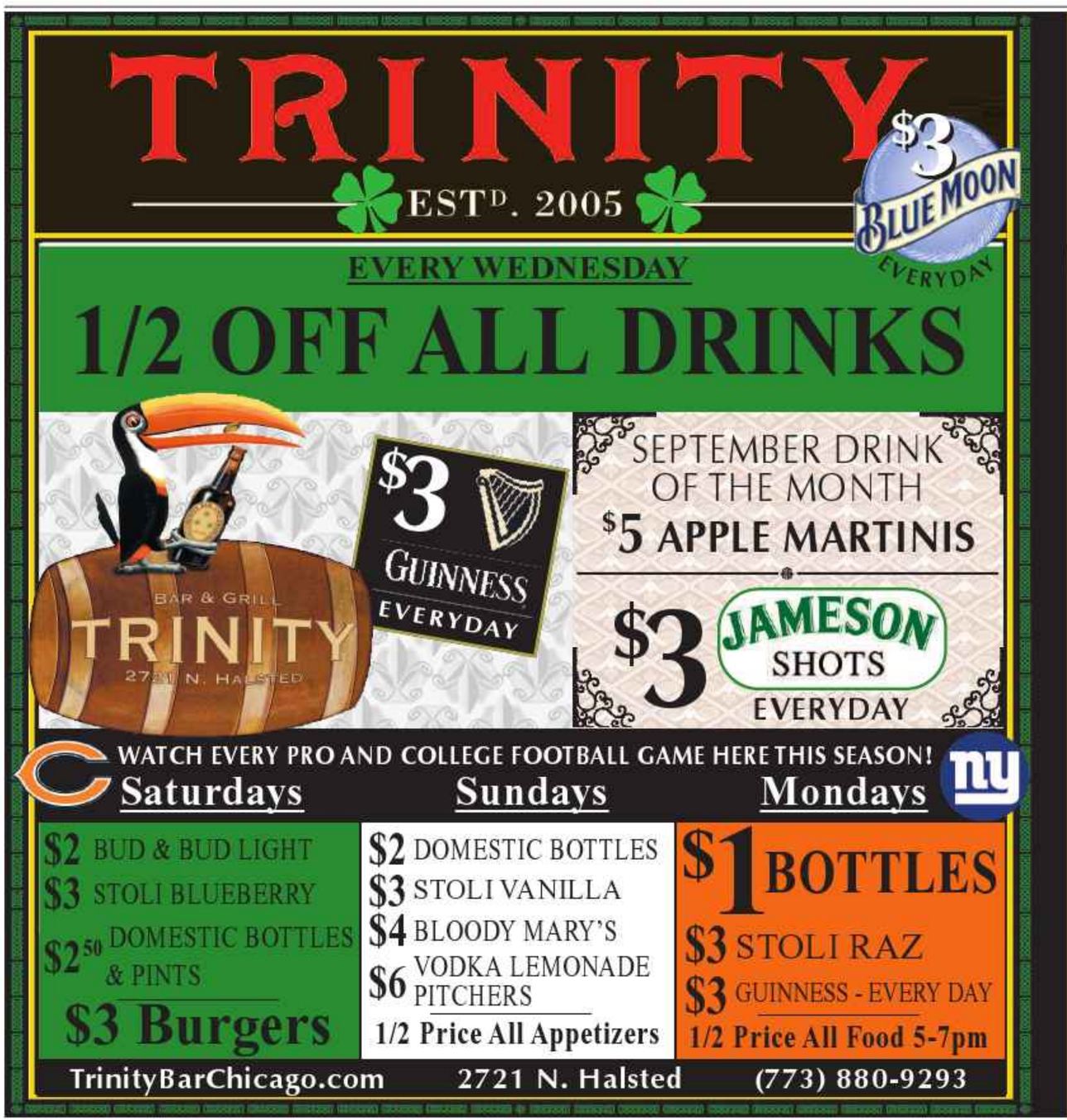
"We're investing big in this," she said. "I think we see it as a way to get some of those nonreaders into reading."



BOOK BLOCKBUSTERS

Here are some famous blockbuster book series from the past:

- J.K. Rowling's "Harry Potter" series
- Stephenie Meyer's "Twilight" novels
- Ann Brashares' "The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants"
- "A Series of Unfortunate Events" book series by Lemony Snicket (Daniel Handler)



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>> If you see a video on **youtube.com** that you want to keep, click on its address in the Explorer window and hit the CTRL and C buttons on your keyboard (this will copy the address).

>> Go to the site **keepvid.com**, and paste (CTRL and V) the YouTube address into the "URL" window and press "Download." An updated screen appears with two download links. Right click on "video.mp4—High Quality," select "Save Target As" and save the video to your desktop.

>> Drag the saved video into your iTunes Movie folder and sync iTunes with your iPod. **NEWSDAY**

Web tools make PDA datebook obsolete

The PDA that rendered your datebook obsolete has been rendered extinct itself by Web-based tools. Here are three:

>> Get nagged for free by **birthdayalarm.com,** which sends reminders via e-mail or cell-phone text for all those important dates, including holidays.

>> Yahoo bugs you twice: Select "Reminders" at **yahoo.com,** and you will be e-mailed the right one at the right time, to any e-mail address you choose. If you use "New Yahoo Mail" instead of "Classic," you also get a timeline at the bottom of your screen, which displays upcoming events.

>> Social networking sites, such as **plaxo.com,** also provide alerts, and after you log on, you can set your preferences regarding frequency or repetition of reminders. **NEWSDAY**

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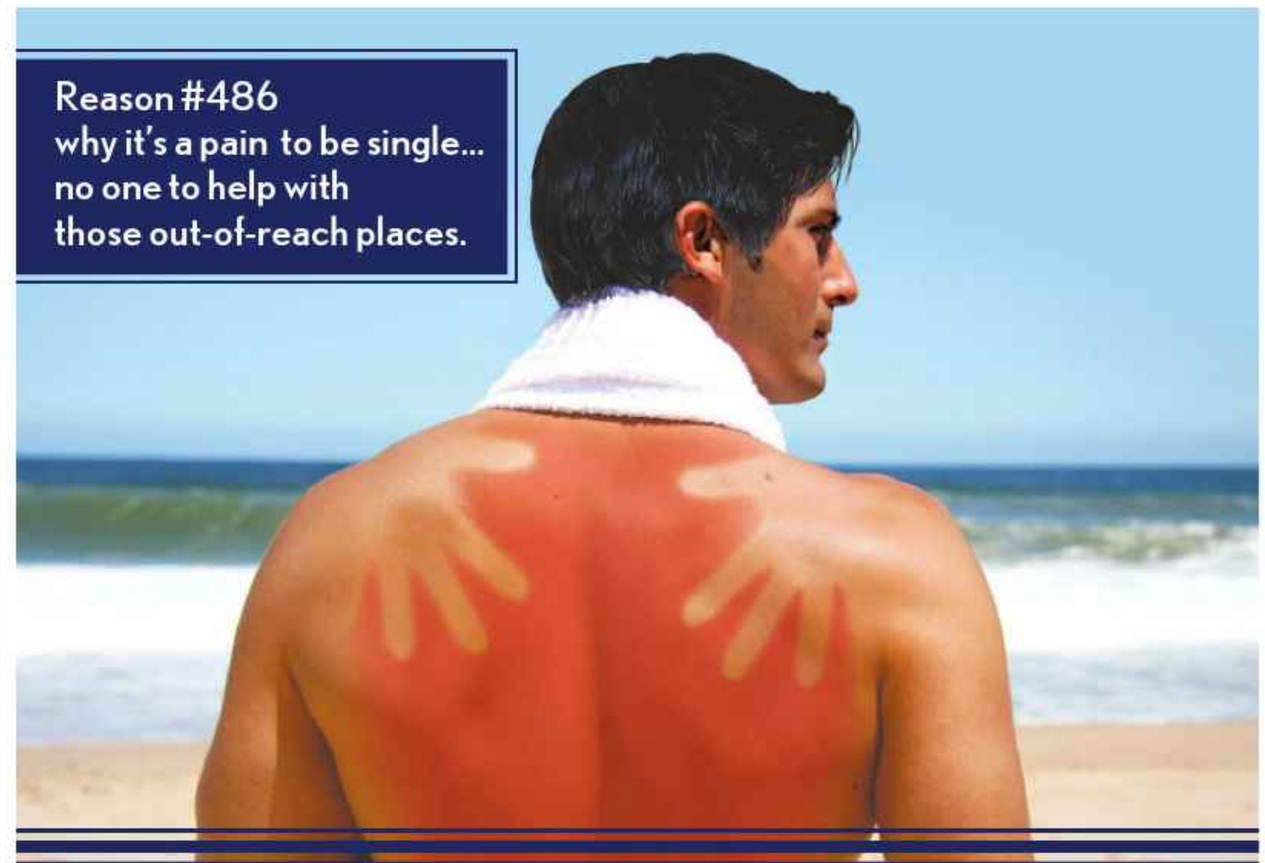

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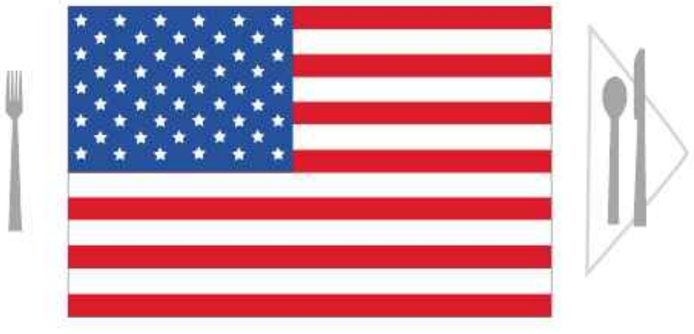

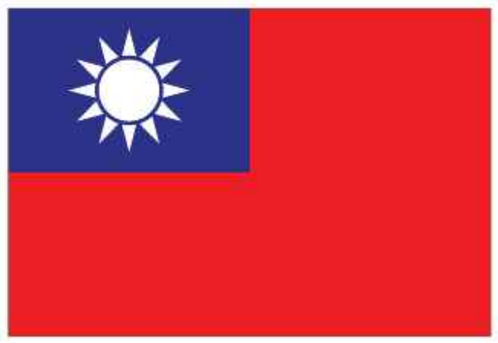

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ACROSS
1 Turn inside out
6 Pouchlike structure
9 Sanctify
14 Indian instrument
15 Baseball stat
16 Spooky
17 Muddle
18 Big bird Down Under
19 "Divine Comedy" poet
20 Moray _
21 Center
23 City on the Moselle
24 Hot tubs
25 Frigidity
27 _ down the hatches!
30 Tower (over)
31 Planetary path
32 Gopher State
37 Signify
38 _ on (mollycoddles)
39 False god
40 Sought a deal
42 Fluttering sound
43 Burn a bit
44 All the rage
45 Meals
49 Narrow inlets
50 Binary compound
51 Cornered in branches
53 Had brunch
56 Edmonton pro
57 Ages and ages
58 Couch potato
60 Took a nap
61 Hwy. abbr.
62 Sensory organs
63 Dry runs
64 Word of agreement
65 Folklore creature

DOWN
1 Latin being
2 Clinging flora
3 List add-on
4 Brit. flyboys
5 Proclaim
6 Plant starters
7 Equips for battle
8 Warned
9 Hour of retiring
10 Acquire knowledge
11 Banks of baseball
12 Locales
13 Tarot users
22 Writer Fleming
24 Scam
26 Inmates
27 Dud
28 Bailiwick
29 Ski lift
30 Cubic decimeter
32 Secluded religious community
33 Begets
34 Ruler of the Aesir
35 Narrated
36 Ms. McBeal
38 Japanese parliament
41 Declares
42 Buying and selling
44 Bind
45 Perch
46 Banish
47 Stacks
48 Proficient
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CHA-CHING!

'Deal or No Deal' host Howie Mandel and the show's first million-dollar winner, Jessica Robinson. NBC

These celebs would make the most of NBC's million-dollar prize

Well, that was different.

"Deal or No Deal" had its first million-dollar winner Monday: Pregnant contestant Jessica Robinson of Sandy, Utah, who eliminated four $1 million cases from play and passed on several offers, including one that topped $500,000, according to NBC.

This was a special version of the game, dubbed "Million Dollar Mission," in which five $1 million cases were up for grabs instead of the usual one, increasing Robinson's chance to win.

In the final round of the case-picking game, she said "No deal!" to an offer of $561,000 from the banker, opening the case she chose at the beginning of the show to reveal her $1 million haul.

NBC called it "historic." We call it pretty darn neat. In honor of this moment in pop-culture history, here's a look at some familiar faces we'd also like to see win big on host Howie Mandel's popular game show.

Winners we want to see

Lil Wayne
Trademark: "A Milli" rapper
Why it'd be cool: Would cement Wayne's status as an inescapable media personality
Spending suggestion: Trademark nickname "Best Rapper Alive"

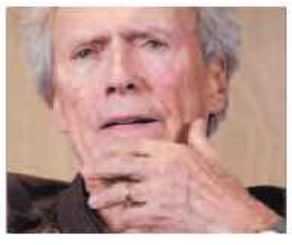
Barenaked Ladies
Trademark: Lovable, Canada-tinged pop songs
Why it'd be cool: Finally, an answer to the scenario posed in 1992's "If I Had $1,000,000"
Spending suggestion: Fur coats—but not real fur coats, because that's cruel.

Meredith Vieira
Trademark: Host of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire"
Why it'd be cool: Instead of giving away checks, she'd be getting them
Spending suggestion: Pay off the bigwigs; help "Millionaire" reclaim its mainstream status

Dr. Evil
Trademark: Holding the world ransom for $1 million
Why it'd be cool: For once, the bad guy wins.
Spending suggestion: Death ray

James Frey
Trademark: Author of controversial book "A Million Little Pieces"
Why it'd be cool: A perfect excuse for another awkward confrontation on "Oprah"
Spending suggestion: A long vacation

Clint Eastwood
Trademark: Blockbuster movies
Why it'd be cool: Could be his second "Million Dollar Baby"
Spending suggestion: Put it in the bank for next project.



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Lohan
AP FILE

Lo sounds off on Palin

When you think "politics," do you think ... Lindsay Lohan?

LiLo took to her MySpace blog Tuesday to post her thoughts on Republican John McCain's running mate, Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, and the revelation that Palin's unmarried teen daughter is pregnant, The Associated Press reports.

"Keep hearing about the issues related to 'teen pregnancy.' ... Well, I think the real problem comes from the fact that we are taking the focus off of getting to know Sarah Palin and her political views, and what she can do to make our country a less destructive place," Lohan reportedly wrote.

No boys allowed

Usher says he soon will announce the details of his upcoming "One Night Stand" tour, which, he warns, is strictly for the ladies.

He told the AP that details are being worked out for about 15 "intimate" venues.

"['Here I Stand,' his latest album] was definitely the type of one that was more intimate," Usher says. "So what better way to get up close and personal than to make [the tour for] all women?"

Ritchie

Don't ask me

Are Madonna and husband Guy Ritchie thinking about more kids? "You'll have to speak to her about that," the director told reporters at the London premiere of his new movie, "RocknRolla," according to **usmagazine.com**. "She makes those decisions." Ritchie said Madonna's world tour can take a toll on their relationship: "There's a big ocean in the way sometimes, but we try and do our best."

NOTED, QUOTED, DEMOTED

AP FILE

Noted

Don LaFontaine (above) the man who popularized the catchphrase "In a world where ..." and lent his voice to thousands of movie trailers, has died, AP reports. He was 68.

Quoted

"Jennifer is not only incredibly lovely to have around, she also has what the young people would call 'mad skills.'"

TINA FEY
"30 Rock's" star, confirming an upcoming guest appearance by Jennifer Aniston

Demoted

Speculation on whether Miley Cyrus' "7 Things" song is about Nick Jonas. Seriously, who cares?

txtable

Celebrity twin

Do you look like a celebrity? Send your pic along with the name of the celeb who shares your style to **jxwalsh@tribune.com**. For Wednesday, we have LeVar D. Brooks. Think he's a ringer for hip-hop mogul Diddy? Text "twin" and the number of your opinion to **47383**. You'll get the poll results instantly.

1. Dead on

Diddy

2. Way off

Brooks

BOOK YOUR PRIVATE PARTY TODAY!

red hot

McConaughey
GETTY IMAGES

The love of his life

McConaughey and Alves
GETTY IMAGES FILE

Matthew McConaughey says the mother of his son is the love of his life.

"I always wanted to be a father and thought it would be great, but it just took the right woman and the right time to make it all happen," he tells **people.com** of his girlfriend of two years, Camila Alves, who gave birth to son Levi in July.

"We're a family now," adds McConaughey. "I see the future and it's clearer to me now. Walking around with this cool responsibility all the time, it's a wonderful thing."

3.37M

Number of viewers who tuned into the "Gossip Girl" season premiere Monday night, according to **usmagazine.com**. That's less than the 3.5 million viewers who watched the first season premiere last year, but viewership was up in the young adult and female demographics.

Costume change?

Forget the magic wand, hand this boy a feather boa!

After all those years in wizard robes, "Harry Potter" star Daniel Radcliffe says he's ready to try cross-dressing for a role.

"I think part of me would love to play a drag queen, just because it would be an excuse to wear loads of eye makeup," Radcliffe says in an interview with Details magazine, when asked about the kind of parts he'd like to tackle.

The boy wizard has been taking on projects very different from his "Harry Potter" fare: Details reports that he's moving to New York this fall to continue his occasionally naked role in the controversial play "Equus," which was originally staged in London.

Radcliffe

THE VELVET ROPE

Guitar heroes

Looks like the Smashing Pumpkins are ready for some Guitar Hero.

Activision has announced that the Pumpkins would release their next single, "G.L.O.W.," as part of the popular video game, the Tribune's "Turn It Up" music blog reports.

The song would come with Pumpkins standards "1979" and "The Everlasting Gaze" as a download for the game's next installation, which is due out in a few weeks. Frontman Billy Corgan reportedly will appear as a character in the game.

Holmes

Saving Katie?

An anti-Scientology group has taken it upon itself to save Katie Holmes by protesting her Broadway debut next month, **msnbc.com** reports.

A spokesman for the group Anonymous told the Web site that a protest will take place on opening night, Oct. 16.

"We aren't looking to shut it (the performance "All My Sons") down, we don't have the power to do that, we just want to prove a point," a spokesperson tells the network about the reported protest.

"We want to draw attention to Scientology, and hopefully get Katie out of it before it's too late."

Tiger's new tale

Tiger Woods has another milestone to celebrate: Child No. 2.

Woods announced on his Web site Tuesday that his wife Elin is pregnant and is due in late winter. He offered no other details.

Woods won the U.S. Open in June in dramatic fashion, coming back in a playoff on what he later revealed was a badly injured left knee. His first child, daughter Sam, was born the Monday after the 2007 U.S. Open. "Elin is feeling great and we are both thrilled," Woods said on his site. "While my injury has been disappointing and frustrating, it has allowed me to spend a lot of time watching Sam grow. I can't begin to tell you how rewarding it is being a dad and spending time with her and Elin."

Tiger's view

txtable

According to Tiger Woods' Web site, what is his favorite movie? Text **"fave"** and the number of your answer to **47383**. You'll get a message telling you if you got the answer right.

1. Tin Cup
2. The Legend of Bagger Vance
3. Caddyshack
4. Happy Gilmore
5. Who's Your Caddy?